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INTERNATIONAL EDITION

THE LATEST
NEWS FROM
ISRAEL
Published in Jerusalem
מצא לאור בירושלים

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Two faces of Israel: In photo at left, visiting U.S. Rabbi Jacob Kaminetzky of New York, a member of the Council of Torah Sages (second from left, foreground), is greeted at Ben-Gurion Airport last week by (left to right) MK Menahem Porush, unidentified,

MK Shmuel Halper, MK Shlomo Lorincz and MK Avraham Shapira. In other photo Brazilian entertainers wow the audience as Gail Costa and her orchestra perform last week in the Tel Aviv Festival. (H. Reider, Katz)

El Al staff opposes closure on Saturdays

Jerusalem Post Staff
TEL AVIV. — Staff committee members representing the workers in the Airport Authority, customs, aircraft refuellers and El Al were meeting on Sunday morning at Ben-Gurion Airport to decide how to fight last week's cabinet decision to ground El Al Saturdays and Jewish holidays.

A spokesman for the El Al staff committee said he did not anticipate a decision to strike immediately.

On Monday, the High Court of Justice is to consider their plea against the decision.

Staff committee representatives on Saturday collected signatures in Tel Aviv's Dizengoff Square for a petition attacking the government's decision.

Meanwhile, Deputy Prime Minister Simcha Ehrlich, who heads the cabinet committee charged with grounding El Al on the Sabbath and Jewish religious holidays, last week recommended that the government sell the airline.

Agudat Yisrael MK Avraham Shapira, leader of the effort to stop Sabbath flights, said he would support a sale only if the buyers undertake not to fly the planes on holy days. Shapira also said he would see to it that the privately-owned Israeli airlines — Arkia and Maof — do not fly on the Sabbath. This could be achieved by the government denying them Sabbath work permits, he said.

The cabinet's decision was taken

in accordance with the coalition agreement with the ultra-Orthodox Agudat Yisrael. That agreement says the national carrier's planes will not take off, fly or land on the Sabbath and Jewish holidays.

In advocating the sale of El Al, Ehrlich said it was not because of the Sabbath flights, "but because El Al has reached a situation whereby unless it is sold... to public or private hands or both... it will collapse. I don't believe we can revive it," he said.

Ehrlich was apparently alluding to the fact that even if the airline continues flying on holy days it expects to lose some \$40 million, raising its accumulated deficit to at least \$160m.

He thus seemed to concur with Transport Minister Haim Corfu, who had told the Knesset Finance Committee on Wednesday he believes El Al could not bear an additional yearly \$30m.-to-\$40m. loss resulting from a cessation of Sabbath flights and would have to be sold.

Agudat Yisrael's Shapira said he, too, would support the sale. He recalled the Zim shipping line had lost money when it was government-owned, but moved to the black after it became a private enterprise. However, he insisted, the new owners must undertake not to operate it on the Sabbath.

The proposed sale was sharply criticized by the national carrier's president, Yitzhak Shander. "I find

(Continued on page 10)

West Bank, Gaza, quiet

Jerusalem Post Reporter

The West Bank and Gaza Strip were quiet over the weekend except for a few disturbances in Nablus, in the refugee camps at Balata and Ein Beit-elma near Nablus, and in the village of Yatta south of Hebron.

However, during violent anti-Israel demonstrations early in the week, two Arab girls were shot and later died.

West Bank and Gaza Strip mayors, who consulted over the weekend, decided to continue to boycott the civil administration and to demand the reinstatement of the four mayors, who were deposed by the authorities.

On Saturday, the mayors continued to discuss the possibility of a general strike of all the municipalities, but no final decision was taken.

East Jerusalem sources said last week that most of the municipalities are likely to close their main offices starting from Monday, but that they would continue to provide essential services, such as water, electricity and garbage collection, by operating out of private homes.

Jordan has promised to pay the salaries of the municipal workers if they go on strike.

Meanwhile, restrictions against crossing the Jordan River bridges imposed on residents of Ramallah and El-Bireh a month and a half ago were lifted last week as tensions eased somewhat on the West Bank.

The most serious incidents last week occurred in the Old City of Jerusalem where youths stoned a border police patrol.

Autonomy negotiations Israel insists on Jerusalem talks

Jerusalem Post Staff

Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir said last week that Israel cannot agree to holding autonomy talks in Cairo, Washington, Geneva or anywhere else, if the talks won't also be held in Jerusalem.

"We can't agree to Jerusalem being boycotted, nor can we ourselves participate in such a boycott," the minister said on Israeli Radio's weekly newscast programme.

"Now that the problem of Jerusalem has arisen, we must stand firm; unwillingness to come to Jerusalem is baseless obstinacy," Shamir declared in reiterating Prime Minister Menachem Begin's insistence that Jerusalem serve as a venue for the autonomy negotiations.

Shamir spoke prior to Sunday's scheduled arrival in Israel of the special U.S. envoy, Richard Fairbanks, in an effort to reach agreement on the location for another round of autonomy talks. Fairbanks will fly to Cairo later in the week.

The government on Sunday reiterated its position that unless the autonomy talks are held in

Jerusalem, as well as Washington and Cairo, Israel will not participate in any further negotiations.

Egypt's government-controlled radio, meanwhile, said that Fairbanks' mission would not be easy because of Israel's rigid position since it completed its withdrawal from Sinai late last month. The radio said the U.S. was belittling the seriousness of Israel's demand that Jerusalem be one of the sites.

Butros Ghali, Egypt's minister of state for foreign affairs, told a press conference in the Hague on Saturday that he believed a solution would be found to the disagreement over the site. He described the disagreement as a "procedural difficulty."

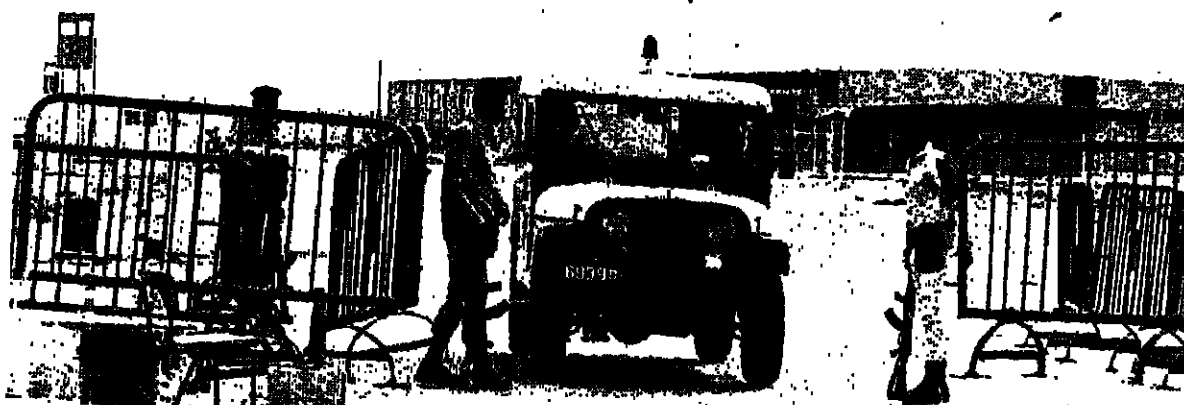
But Ghali, on a private visit to the Netherlands, reiterated that he would not go to Jerusalem for the talks. Herzliya has been the traditional Israeli location for the talks.

As a compromise, the U.S. has proposed Washington as a location.

Shamir was asked by his radio interviewer if Israel would accept a

(Continued on page 10)

NEWSSTAND PRICES IN LOCAL CURRENCY			
Australia	\$1.20	Italy	L.1,400
Canada	\$1.45	Sweden	Rd1.20
Denmark	DKR.00	Switzerland	SK6.50
Germany	DM2.50	United Kingdom	SP2.30
Holland	DF3.00	United States	80p
Israel	IS13.00		\$1.25



This Israeli police jeep has no trouble negotiating the border formalities at Rafah as it crosses back into Israel after a short trip to Egyptian-controlled Rafah, where customs posts of the two nations were officially opened last week. (Israel Sun)

Israeli presence in Taba irks Egypt

By DAVID LANDAU
Post Diplomatic Correspondent

The problem of Taba Beach, near Eilat, continues to cloud Israel-Egypt relations despite an interim agreement signed two weeks ago which was to have relieved the dispute pending a final settlement.

Egyptian negotiators were angered and aggrieved last week to find an Israeli flag fluttering over Rafi Nelson's holiday village on the disputed beach, and to find Israeli policemen in the area. They saw these as contraventions of the interim agreement.

Last week, Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir received a letter

from Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamel Hassan Ali urging a speedy solution to the dispute.

Egyptian officials say openly that they suspect and fear Israeli foot-dragging over Taba. It was such suspicions and fears that prompted President Hosni Mubarak to write to Prime Minister Menachem Begin on April 20, urging a "formula for settling this disagreement by arbitration by a certain date...I cannot emphasize to you adequately the need to avoid any controversy in the months and years to come."

In the event, Egypt was forced to drop its demand for a deadline date for the arbitration process, in the

face of determined Israeli resistance.

Talks held in Taba and in Tel Aviv last week were designed to "establish arrangements" for Taba during the interim period pending a final settlement. The two sides were to have drawn up agreed guidelines for the Multinational Force and Observers (MFO) who are to supervise the area during the interim period.

But the atmosphere was soured, according to Egyptian sources, by the presence of Israeli police in Taba, and of the Israeli flag there, when the negotiators toured the site. The talks ended without agreement.

Goodman indicted for Temple Mount shooting

Jerusalem Post Staff

Alan Harry Goodman, the 38-year-old American immigrant who allegedly shot his way into the Dome of the Rock last month, was indicted last week in the Jerusalem District Court on one count of murder and five counts of attempted murder.

The charge sheet, presented to the court by Jerusalem district attorney Michael Kirsh, states that Goodman went to the Temple Mount in Jerusalem at about 9 a.m. on April 11, 1982 "with the intention of penetrating to the Dome of the Rock and taking it over to 'liberate' the Temple Mount."

Goodman's plan was to kill anyone who stood in his way, and for this purpose he was armed with an M-16 rifle and a magazine containing 29 bullets, the charge sheet said.

The charge sheet then describes Goodman's movements from his entrance point at Bab el-Ghawana, the northernmost gate on the western side of the Temple Mount, until his surrender inside the bullet-riddled mosque itself.

Goodman is charged with shooting with intent to kill and injuring a Waqf (Moslem religious trust) guard, Riad Abu-Ramila, and policemen Muhammad Ahmad and

Walid Junedi. He is also charged with shooting at with intent to kill two other policemen, Yona Binyamin and Tassir Kattum, who were not hit.

Leaving a trail of wounded security personnel behind him, Goodman then sprinted up the steps leading to the Dome of the Rock and was met at the door by Waqf guard Haj Salah Yamani, 65, who had come out of the mosque to shut the doors after hearing the shots, the charge sheet says. Goodman fired four shots at close range, hitting Yamani in the chest and stomach and killing him, it says.

After his ammunition ran out, Goodman then gave himself up to security forces who entered the mosque, according to the charge sheet.

The charge sheet lists 33 prosecution witnesses, including IDF officers, border policemen, policemen and soldiers, as well as doctors at East Jerusalem hospitals and residents of East Jerusalem.

Police are continuing their investigation of the death of Jihad Ibrahim Bader, who was shot during the riots that followed Goodman's takeover of the Dome of the Rock, and of the other wounded persons whose injuries were not caused by Goodman.

Army man named Golan coordinator

By JOSHUA BRILLIANT
Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — The appointment of OC Northern Command Aluf Amir Drori as coordinator of government operations on the Golan does not mean the military government is returning through the back door, Interior Minister Yosef Burg said last week.

"The police will continue to come under a civilian officer and will operate accordingly," said Burg, who is also minister of police. "There are no indications to the return of anything like the military government," he insisted.

Senior government sources told *The Post* Drori was appointed to coordinate government operations among the Druse population on the Golan.

This includes solving housing, water, electricity, labour and other problems, but mainly enforcing the Knesset's decision to extend civil law and administration to that area. The Knesset's decision led to a

strike of the Druse residents. The officials maintain that support from Damascus, the PLO and Arabs in Judea and Samaria have caused serious security problems — which are the paramount issues to be handled.

Drori is merely chairman of a coordinating committee and no powers have been withdrawn from the civilian authorities, Burg maintained. He was chosen because the Golan is a border area, the minister added.

It was not clear how long the new situation will last. Burg said that as minister of interior and religious affairs he was doing what he could to calm the situation.

On the Golan Heights, meanwhile, Druse continued their demonstrations Saturday over the wounding of six residents of the Buk'ata village in a clash with police on Friday, when the dispute over the issuing by the government of civilian identity cards erupted into violence.

EL AL

(Continued from page one)

it hard to believe someone is looking for an excuse to get rid of El Al," he said. "I see no reason to sell the airline... or how that will solve the problem."

There is increasing support within the Likud for the sale, both on grounds that this would be best for the airline and the tax-payer and also because once El Al is in private hands the government would not be bound to impose a Sabbath grounding on its planes.

American Jewry would likely approve of El Al being sold on the Sabbath and Jewish holidays, according to Howard Squadron, chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations.

The Israeli pledge not to remove settlements in the future is "invalid," the Egyptians said.

UNIFIL criticized for firing to deter IDF

Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — IDF sources last week criticized UNIFIL for opening fire to deter Israeli troops from searching for three terrorists who had laid mines on the Golan.

Senior officers said it was the first case they can remember in which UNIFIL opened fire to stop the IDF. The Israelis kept their fingers off the triggers, the sources added.

The incident occurred at about 8 a.m. Friday when an IDF patrol discovered several land mines which had been planted the night before on the patrol road at Har Dov.

According to the IDF, the assailants' tracks led across the Lebanese border towards the village of Sheb'a, some three kilometres north of Har Dov in an area contested by UNIFIL and Lebanese militia leader, Sa'ad Haddad. The IDF report said the tracks passed between two UNIFIL positions manned by Norwegian soldiers.

IDF soldiers who followed the tracks some 500 metres to a kilometre across the lines, were stopped by

the Norwegian soldiers who fired two bazookas and light arms fire into the air.

When Israeli helicopters appeared overhead, the Norwegians fired smoke grenades to warn the pilots away.

The IDF soldiers returned with four shepherds. The four were released some 10 hours later when they proved they had nothing to do with the terrorists, the Israeli sources reported.

Some military sources were critical of the UN action. "They should have stopped those terrorists and not fired at our men," one said.

UNIFIL issued no official statement but one source said privately that the mine had been laid by crossing through Haddad's territory. "Everybody knows the UN positions are far from one another, but Haddad is supposed to be Israel's shield. What happened to that shield?" the UN official asked.

The official announcement released by the IDF spokesman, merely reported the UN action, but added that the terrorist attack was "a clear violation of the cease-fire agreement."

HOME NEWS

Drillers find traces of oil near Arad

By CHARLES HOFFMAN
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Government oil prospectors drilling east of Arad last week announced that several barrels of oil mixed with water had been pumped from a depth of 1,860 metres, in the well called "Tzuk Tamur 1."

The drill was carried out by the Oil Exploration Investment Company (Hanah) and cost \$2 million. Hanah director Yosef Langotzky cautioned that "this find should not be seen as proof that a commercially viable oil reservoir had been discovered, and we should not draw hasty conclusions."

The find was made in the deepest stratum of the well, near an area that until now had produced several gas fields, but rendered only small traces of oil. Further laboratory tests of the oil and a closer examination of the other strata penetrated in the drill will be needed to determine if the well has commercial prospects.

Langotzky said that traces of oil were found two years ago in a well near the Dead Sea, in the same

covered, and we should not draw hasty conclusions."

Even at this stage, between conviction (on three out of six counts) and appeal, it is already clear that Abuhateira's conviction has not, of itself, destroyed his political career. Some observers believe the reason for this is that he was not sent to prison — and thus is seen in some quarters, particularly among his sympathizers, as not to have committed a grievous offence.

The District Court judge's observation that this was the first case before the courts involving the system of money handouts by the Interior Ministry is seen in these quarters as endorsing, to some extent, Abuhateira's own consistent claim that he was a cog in — and then a victim of — "the system" (*hashitta*).

At any rate, the political movement that was founded and grew as a result of Abuhateira's legal problems now needs to find a more lasting and appealing platform if it is to survive and flourish. Abuhateira himself is the first to appreciate this. The broadened alliance to which he aspires, say the sources close to him, will focus on two facets of Israel's national life:

• Social questions: "All 'new olim,' i.e. people who came here after 1948, are potential supporters of a movement that will concern itself primarily with improving their

geological stratum that produced the oil in Tzuk Tamur 1. Oil experts believe that the eastern Negev-Dead Sea area has excellent oil-producing prospects.

Investors in the well include the government oil companies Hanah and Israel National Oil Company (Hanal), with a 326 per cent share; Nafta and Lapidot, the government drilling companies, with a 40 per cent share; Paz Oil Exploration, 25 per cent; Paz Consortium, five per cent; and private Israeli investors, four per cent.

Abuhateira seeks broader base for Tami

By DAVID LANDAU
Post Diplomatic Correspondent

Aharon Abuhateira, the leader of Tami, has embarked on a series of contacts with other politicians with a view to broadening the base of his movement before the next elections.

Sources close to the Knesset member and ex-minister refuse to say "at this early stage" whom he has contacted and whom he "hopes and dreams" of wooing into a broadened political alliance. But they say he is aiming to build up a new "third-force" party that would win about seven or eight Knesset seats and become the major balance between the two big blocks, Likud and Labour.

Abuhateira can offer potential allies his own popularity as a vote-getter, and an efficient, country-wide political machine reputedly supported by substantial and enthusiastic contributions from the Sephardi Diaspora.

But the leitmotif of the broadened party, if Abuhateira succeeds in his plans, will no longer be Sephardi or "ethnicism." Abuhateira himself is well aware, say the sources close to him, that this theme is basically limiting and restricting — especially now that his own legal process is drawing to an end.

Once his appeal (against conviction for theft and fraud) is heard by the Supreme Court, the case will quickly fade from the headlines and

standing," the sources close to Abuhateira say. By no means are all of this vast target group Sephardim.

Foreign policy issues: Here the envisioned new "third force" will take a considerably more moderate line than the present government consensus. The sources close to Abuhateira stress this and say his overtures to other politicians are guided by his own political moderation.

He believes, moreover, that among his own supporters and potential supporters there is a good deal of latent political moderation, that, in the past, tended to be submerged in widespread sympathy for Prime Minister and Herut.

Abuhateira is understood to feel strongly that, in the long term, the Israelis originating from Arab lands — and especially those from North Africa whose experiences and memories were often favourable — must play a key role in bringing comprehensive Arab-Israeli peace.

One out-of-work politician whom Abuhateira would probably welcome into the broadened movement, perhaps as its leader: former defence minister Ezer Weizman.

Charles Hoffman adds:

Aharon Uzan, sworn in last week as the new minister of labour, social affairs, and immigrant absorption, plans to carry out his party's pledge to replace the director of the National Insurance Institute with a Tami political appointee.

Druckman and NRP move toward splitting faction

By SARAH HONIG
Post Political Reporter

TEL AVIV. — National Religious Party Knesset Member Haim Druckman boycotted last week's meeting of his party's executive, indicating a severe widening of the rift in the party. This could develop into a split of its Knesset faction.

The meeting was closed to the press, a rare occurrence in that party.

Bnei Akiva mentor and former MK Rabbi Moshe Zvi Neria also did not attend. He and Druckman

said they would not cooperate with the party unless its secretary-general, Danny Vermuss, apologizes for threatening action against them for forming a new party. Such a party has, in fact, not been established.

Sources close to Druckman said last week that the NRP daily, *Ha-zafé*, even refused to print an advertisement in which he and Neria sought to explain their stand and their action in forming their Shvut Yisrael faction. The two men were among the leaders of the anti-Sinai withdrawal movement.

Saguy: prospects of war increased

Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — The balance of power between Israel and the Arab armies has worsened, as far as the IDF is concerned, but in the coming decade Israel will continue to maintain a qualitative edge.

This view was expressed by Aluf Yehoshua Saguy, the chief of army intelligence, in an interview to the

army weekly, *Banahane*, published last week.

Saguy said that the former ratio of 1:3 had worsened during the past few years and that the IDF now had to think in terms of a 1:5 ratio with the enemy. This meant that the price of victory in a future war would be higher than in the past, he surmised.

SOCCER

Below are the weekly results of last Saturday's National League soccer games, followed by the league's current standings.

Maccabi Tel Aviv 0 Shimshon D. Hapoel Yehud 0 Hap. Beersheba 2 Mac. Petah Tikva 4 Beter Jerusalem 2 Hap. Rishon 2 Mac. Jaffa 0 Bnei Tel Aviv 0 Mac. Netanya 1 Hap. Jerusalem 1 Hap. Petah Tikva 0 Mac. Haifa 3 Bnei Yehuda 1 Hap. Kfar Sava 1 Hap. Tel Aviv 0

Standings

	W	D	L	Goals	Pts.
1. Hap. Kfar Sava	17	5	4	42:28	41
2. Mac. Netanya	16	7	6	59:28	39
3. Bnei Yehuda	12	9	8	31:29	33
4. Beersheba	13	6	10	41:38	32
5. Hap. Tel Aviv	9	12	8	31:24	30
6. Mac. Tel Aviv	10	9	9	26:30	30
7. Mac. Be'er Tikva	9	11	9	35:32	29
8. Mac. Haifa	9	11	9	31:31	29
9. Hap. J'lem	8	13	8	23:23	29
10. Bnei J'lem	8	12	9	35:26	28
11. Yehud	6	16	7	17:24	28
12. Jaffa	8	11	10	30:36	27
13. Shimshon	7	13	9	26:31	27
14. Rishon	8	10	12	21:28	26
15. Bnei Tel Aviv	5	13	11	22:32	23
16. Hap. Petah Tikva	3	7	19	13:39	13

THE WEATHER

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Tiberias	13-34	33
Tel Aviv	17-24	26
Eilat	19-33	33

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Bank of Israel lost \$370m. by overcautious management

By MEIR MERHAV
and AVI TEMKIN
Post Economic Reporters

In 1981 the Bank of Israel lost some \$300 million, and another \$70m. in the first quarter of 1982, as a result of what authoritative sources admitted was overly conservative management of the country's foreign currency reserves.

The central bank, these sources said, continued to hold on to assets in European currencies in the belief that their value against the U.S. dollar, and their interest rates, would rise again.

The central bank is currently revising its portfolio, in which there is a high proportion of European currency assets, especially Deutschmarks. However, this has not prevented further losses in the first three months of the current year.

Reliable sources in the Bank of Israel say that there is still some reluctance against switching from European currency assets to dollar assets. The expectation — shared by what one source called "the best-informed international experts in foreign currency dealings" — that the dollar cannot for long maintain its high value against the European currencies, continues to keep the Bank of Israel cautious in its management of the foreign currency reserves.

Despite the continuing, albeit slowing, trend of losses in foreign reserves, the bank still hesitates to change the composition of its portfolio more than marginally.

The losses incurred in 1981 — and those that have piled up since — are mainly an accounting loss, different sources in the Bank of Israel explained. As long as the bank keeps part of the foreign reserves in currencies other than the dollar, and these weaken against it while the reserves continue to be quoted in dollars, the balance will necessarily show a loss in terms of the dollar.

By the same token, these sources said, Israel gained in the late 1970s up to 1980, when the dollar deteriorated against European currencies.

If Israel's foreign reserves had been linked to a basket of foreign currencies, such as the special drawing rights of the International Monetary Fund (SDRs), or some other basket, the losses incurred recently would have been less apparent — but so would earlier gains, one well-informed source explained.

In answer to the question why, nevertheless, the Bank of Israel hesitated to switch its foreign currency holdings from weak, low-interest currencies to the dollar, (even for the short-term, particularly after the Ottawa conference last summer made it clear that the U.S. was not inclined to reduce its interest rates and let the dollar slide), the source conceded that the central bank had erred on the side of caution.

This error was to the tune of 10 per cent of the country's reserves.

The Executive, children and friends
of the Youth Aliyah Department of the Jewish Agency

express their deep sense of bereavement
and extend condolences to the Rothschild Family
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The President's wife, Ofira Navon, and their son Erez joined the special train from Jerusalem to Tel Aviv last week, commemorating the 90th anniversary of the inauguration of railway services in the country. The train was gaily decorated for the occasion by students of the Bezalel Art Academy. The railway was built at the initiative of Yosef Bey Navon, a distant relation of the President. (Zoom 77)

Law-enforcement agencies prepare for limited amnesty

By CHARLES HOFFMAN
Jerusalem Post Reporter

The Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs is forming a special team to handle the adjustment problems of the 200-250 convicts who will soon be released under a government decision to declare a limited amnesty on the 15th anniversary of the unification of Jerusalem.

Deputy Minister Ben-Zion Rubin announced the plan last week at a national conference for probation officers devoted to the problem of the ex-convict and society.

But law-enforcement officials speaking at the two-day conference at Kibbutz Ma'ale Hahamisha were pessimistic as to the prospects of the expected amnesty.

Rubin said that about 4,000 convicts are released each year, many of them coming under the supervision of the ministry's probation officers. But more than two thirds of them end up back in prison, which, he said, means that far too few resources are being devoted to helping the ex-convict find a productive place in society.

Rubin also announced the formation of a Council for the Rehabilitation

of Ex-Convicts, to be directed by his ministry and the Interior Ministry, which is responsible for the police and the prisons.

He said that had such a coordinating and planning body existed previously, the wider amnesty originally proposed by Prime Minister Menachem Begin, might have been put into effect. He hoped that the council would be able to set up the staff and facilities necessary to cope with the large-scale amnesty expected next year on the 35th Independence Day.

The speakers at last week's session included the head of the ministry's correction services, Dr. Menahem Horowitz, Nitzav-Mishne Shlomo Gal of the police investigations division, and Jerusalem district attorney Michael Klah. They were all pessimistic about the success of the planned amnesty.

Another speaker, an ex-convict who spent 12 years from age 10 in and out of prisons, was the only one to strike an optimistic note. He pointed to his own successful rehabilitation, and called for a combination of will power on the part of ex-convicts and intensive efforts by the probation officers.

40% gap in income of Sephardim, Ashkenazim

Post Economic Reporter

The gross income of urban wage earners from North African and Asian countries is 40 per cent lower per capita than that of salaried workers from Europe and the U.S. and the gap between rich and poor in cities is widening.

These findings of the Central Bureau of Statistics are behind MK Yair Tzavan's (Alignment) urgent motion to the Knesset last week about growing inequality in Israeli society.

According to the figures, the incomes per household in Sephard families in 1981 were 20 per cent lower than those of Ashkenazi wage earners, compared with a 15 per cent difference over the previous four years.

The upper two deciles in cities earned 39.7 per cent of the total gross income in 1981 compared with 37 per cent in 1976, while the lower two deciles received only 6.7 per cent, compared with 8.3 per cent in 1976.

Families whose head immigrated from Asian or African countries make up about 47 per cent of the lowest decile, and only 12 per cent of the upper decile. Four years ago they made up 51 per cent of the lower decile and 11 per cent of the upper decile.

Overseas broadcasts in jeopardy—Zipori

By ARYEH RUBINSTEIN
Post Knesset Reporter

Communications Minister Mordechai Zipori warned last week that Israel's network of short- and medium-wave broadcasts is in danger of collapse.

Reviewing the activities of his ministry in the context of the annual budget debate, Zipori said that if there is not an immediate change in the government's approach to and investment in these broadcasts, Israel would lose this form of contact with world Jewry and with "millions of overseas listeners."

In 1981 the ministry requested \$500 million to improve the broadcasting network, but was allocated only \$17m. Zipori said that \$200m. over four years is needed for the comprehensive development of the broadcasting system.

Hebrew U. chief for dialogue—not confrontation

"We will have to decide that defence is a necessary evil and no more, and place supreme emphasis on things worth defending — and for me this is the University," Hebrew University President Avraham Harman stated last week at the final plenary session of the university's 44th annual Board of Governors meeting, held on the Mount Scopus campus.

The university, Harman asserted, must struggle for what it stands for: dialogue and discussion — and not confrontation.

"Israel will have to withstand tremendous stresses and strains, and perhaps actual dangers as well, in the next few years, and it will have to determine its priorities of existence," he added.

The university president was given a standing ovation by the governors in appreciation of 14 years of dedicated leadership. He agreed to stay on as president until the end of 1982. A committee, headed by former supreme court justice Haim Cohn, is engaged in a search for his successor.

About 200 governors, observers and guests came from 16 countries: Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Denmark, France, Germany, Holland, South Africa, Switzerland, United Kingdom, United States, Uruguay and Venezuela.

Board of Governors Chairman Robert H. Smith, of Washington, D.C., who concluded his first year in office, termed the May 2-6 meeting an exhilarating, intensive study, which revealed many aspects of university life.

"By 1985, when the university will celebrate the 60th anniversary of its opening," he said, "we hope to achieve the very ambitious, but attainable, goal of raising \$100 million for the Endowment Fund."

The university devoted a luncheon session of its board meeting to the celebration of the 70th anniversary of the Hadassah organization, with which the Hebrew University has been in partnership for 45 years in medical education, research and services.

Major items on the governors' agenda were financial planning, setting of academic priorities and examination of the university's full-scale return to its original home on Mount Scopus. The move there this academic year of the Social Science and Humanities Faculties tripled the population of the old-new campus to about 10,000 students. On the agenda was also the relocation of university science units on the Givat Ram campus.

The two days of plenary sessions, Diniz, the first speaker, gave a comprehensive survey of the international situation Israel is facing following the withdrawal.

Prof. Milson, noting that the next stage would involve making peace with the Palestinian Arabs, asserted



Chatting last week before the Hebrew University board of governors' meeting are (left to right) Prof. Reuven Yaron; Prof. Shlomo Avineri; board chairman Robert Smith; university president Avraham Harman; Prof. Menahem Milson.

held in the Litwinsky Senate Building, were preceded by committee meetings and a number of workshops which acquainted the members with the university's work in a variety of disciplines.

AFTER SINAI

The formal opening of the board meeting at a dinner on Mount Scopus was highlighted by a symposium on "Israel after the Evacuation from Sinai."

Board Chairman Smith said that this was the first time the governors met on the newly completed campus. He paid tribute to Honorary Board Chairman Samuel Rothberg, of Peoria, Ill., whom he termed "captain of the enterprise — of the major accomplishment of returning to Scopus." He said that the symposium was held to enhance understanding of the society in which the Hebrew University functions.

The members of the panel were ranking university figures, all of whom had been or are in government service: Prof. Shlomo Avineri, former director-general of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Vice-President Simcha Diniz, former Israel ambassador to the U.S.; Prof. Menahem Milson, head of the civilian administration in Judea and Samaria; Prof. Reuven Yaron, chairman of the Israel Broadcasting Authority; and Prof. Pinchas Zussman, former director-general of the Ministry of Defense.

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Prof. Milson, noting that the next stage would involve making peace with the Palestinian Arabs, asserted

that in order to achieve that objective Israel is waging an all-encompassing struggle with the PLO.

Prof. Avineri spoke about the internal debate in Israel and stressed that both major positions — one based on a historical-geographical orientation and the other on a sociological-demographic approach — were equally legitimate within the Zionist framework.

Prof. Zussman, discussing defence expenditures after the Sinai withdrawal, foresaw no decline in this area in the next 4-5 years — despite the peace with Egypt.

Prof. Yaron took issue with Prof. Avineri, maintaining that Israel's existence is in fact inextricably bound up with geographical realities.

ANTIQUITIES BILL

The first plenary session heard an impassioned plea for academic freedom by Rector Prof. Raphael Mechoulam. He told the meeting that the proposed changes in the law concerning antiquities would "effectively stop most archaeological research in Israel, at least as far as our Jewish heritage is concerned."

The board adopted a resolution stating that these changes, which it viewed with the "gravest concern," would imperil the future of archaeological work in Israel.

A major part of the board's meeting was devoted to committee reports.

The Research and Development Committee welcomed the initiation of research cooperation with Egypt, expressing the hope that further progress would be made in this area. The committee heard reports on: the new Centre for the Study of Anti-Semitism; the development of

sophisticated training devices for the defence forces; the study of Jewish law and its implications for the Israeli legal system; and on work being done at the university's Kuvim Centre for the Study of Infectious and Tropical Diseases.

The outgoing chairman of the Authority for Research and Development, Prof. Michael Schlesinger, reviewed some of the university's ongoing projects, pointing out that research at the Hebrew University accounts for over 40 per cent of all research in Israel.

The board heard about a newly-created international group within the framework of the Friends' societies, the Committee for the Jewish National and University Library. It is hoped to establish national committees and a worldwide basis to assist the JNUL in acquiring needed books.

Reporting on the activities of the Friends' societies in various parts of the world, Vice-President Bernard Cherrick stressed the importance of their dedicated work for the advancement of the university.

In his farewell message to the board, outgoing Rector Prof. Raphael Mechoulam called for more emphasis on academic priorities. He wished his successor, Prof. Dan Patinkin, the same fruitful cooperation he had enjoyed from the board and the university leadership.

HAILING HADASSAH

At the session celebrating Hadassah on its 70th anniversary, President Harman termed the organization "a remarkable phenomenon in Jewish history," while Hadassah National President Frieda Lewis reciprocated by saying, "this is an

opportunity to tell our beloved partners how deeply we care about you."

The session was highlighted by a scientific symposium on health and biomedical science.

Opening the symposium was Hadassah Medical Organization Director-General Dr. Shmuel Penchas. He outlined the deep crisis in which health care practice finds itself in the world today, noting that the four "angels of progress" — technology, specialization, team treatment and socialization of medicine — had also led to the disastrous state of medicine today — astronomical cost, fragmentation and strife.

The Deans of the Faculty of Medicine, Prof. Rami Rahamimoff, and of Dental Medicine, Prof. Yair Sharav, concluded the symposium with surveys of the problems and perspectives in medical and dental research and education.

Mrs. Lewis announced two new gifts: the Muriel and Philip Berman Medical Information Centre and the Lois and Willard Cohodas Chair in Clinical Microbiology.

The board re-elected four of the university's vice-presidents: Bernard Cherrick, Simcha Diniz, Prof. Alex Keynan and Prof. Yousha Vaidia. Prof. Michael Ottolenghi was elected Vice-President and Dean for Research and Development, replacing Prof. Michael Schlesinger, who completed a five-year term.

Newly-elected governors are Shalom Dorn, Kalman Gredinger and Moshe Neufelder (Israel); Barbara Mandel (U.S.) and Chief Rabbi Rene Sirat of France.

Elected as associate governors were Avraham Avidi, Dvora Brofman, Eugene Gold, Rachel Huhner and Benjamin Sabagh (Israel); and David Holtzman (U.S.). Elected as honorary governors were Ze'ev Bruchstein, Haim Maronov, Asher Reshef and B. Weinan (all Israel).

At the opening session of the board meeting, Vice-President Bernard Cherrick announced the following recipients of Hebrew University honorary degrees this year: Prof. Seymour Martin Lipset (U.S.), sociologist; Prof. Henry Rosovsky (U.S.), dean of Harvard College; Prof. Nathan Sals (Israel), of the Hebrew University-Hadassah Medical School; Dr. Max Kampelman (U.S.), civic leader; Dr. Max Kampelman (U.S.), lawyer; Sir Zelman Cowen, governor-general of Australia; Herbert Wehner (Germany), statesman; Itzhak Perlman (Israel-U.S.), musician; and Max Rove (Israel-Switzerland), retiring director of the Rothschild Foundations.

This year's recipient of the Solomon R. Guggenheim Prize in Hebrew University Professor Emeritus Michael Evenari, the doyen of Israeli botanists. The Samuel Rothberg Prize for Jewish Education in the Diaspora will be awarded to Stanley Abramowitz of Israel.

During the meeting, the university dedicated the Sears Family Building for the Humanities, the Columbia Foundation Chair in Soil and Water Sciences, the Helen and Arthur Shapiro Garden, and the Morris and Helen Mauerberger Chair in Agricultural Entomology.



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Treasury increases fuel, food prices

Post Economic Reporter
The prices of basic commodities and fuel were raised by about nine per cent last week by decision of the Treasury in consultation with other ministries.

The Finance and Transport Ministries also decided to raise public transportation prices by 25 per cent, effective May 16. The Communication Ministry is to ask the Knesset Finance Committee to approve a 25 per cent rise in the price of telephone and postal rates.

As a result of the increase in the price of fuel a further application to the committee will be made by the Energy Ministry to approve a six per cent rise in the electricity rates.

The Energy Ministry said that the 8 per cent average rise in fuel prices reflects a 10 per cent devaluation of the shekel in relation to the dollar since the last price rise in mid-March, and the slight drop in crude oil prices in recent months.

The Treasury justification for the price hike is that it is necessary to prevent subsidizing fuel or an increase in subsidies for food.

The adjustment in subsidized food products represents a continuation of the Treasury's policy of creeping rises in the prices of these commodities.

The Finance Ministry expects these increases to raise the Consumer Price Index by 1.5 per cent

during May and June, which are considered to be months with a lower rate of inflation than April.

The relatively steep hikes in the public transportation and communication rates were explained as necessary to reduce their rate of subsidy from over 100 per cent to 60 per cent, in the case of communications, and 85 per cent for public transportation. This means that even after the price rises the government adds 60 to 85 agorot for every shekel the consumer spends on such services.

Reacting to the price increases, Histadrut Secretary-General Yeroham Meshel said that Finance Minister Yoram Aridor is reducing the economy to total anarchy.

Reservists jailed for refusing duty on West Bank

TEL AVIV. — A reserve officer and a private who refused to serve in a West Bank town last week began serving a 28-day jail sentence.

The two reservists, Segen Rami Heled, 29, of Tel Aviv and Frank Gampel, 29, of Jerusalem had been called up for 31 days. When they reported on Monday of last week, they were told they would be sent to Jenin.

The two refused to go there and told a senior disciplinary officer at their trial that they would not act against civilians. The officer gave them one night to choose between Jenin and an army prison.



At the dedication of the Earl Mountbatten forest near Migdal Ha'emek last week, Countess Mountbatten plants a tree in memory of her late father. The ceremony was attended by 1,000 guests, including the ambassadors of Britain and Australia.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Youths killed by mine

Four Arab youths were killed in the Samarian village of Yabad last week when an explosive device went off in their midst.

Security forces said that the youths, aged 16 and 17, had apparently found an old mine and were tinkering with it. Villagers say that the youths had found a carton and that it blew up when they tried to lift it.

Alix de Rothschild, 71

Alix de Rothschild, a founder and patron of the Israel Museum and former world chairwoman of Youth Aliya, died last week at Chateau de Rocx near Pont-l'Evêque, France, at the age of 71.

Frequent visitor to Israel, she organized many art exhibitions to benefit local institutions and charities.

Lord Janner, 89

LONDON. — Lord Janner, one of the outstanding British-Jewish leaders of this century, died here on Tuesday night of last week after a long illness. It was just one month before his 90th birthday.

President of the British Zionist Federation and the Board of Deputies of British Jews for many years, he was at the forefront of every facet of Jewish and Zionist activity for well over half a century.

Probe of army officer

TEL AVIV. — The defence establishment's controller has recommended that the IDF judge advocate-general look into a case in which the Tadiran electronics firm paid a lieutenant-colonel \$2,300 in addition to expenses to go abroad to help promote its Mashtif drones.

Mubarak's greetings

President Yitzhak Navon last week received a telegram from Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, congratulating Israel on its 34th Independence Day.

HU head called police

Hebrew University President Avraham Harman has taken personal responsibility for calling in police recently to detain five students wearing Israel-Palestine Peace lapel pins, university spokesman Benny Mushkin confirmed last week.

Moslem jurist retires



A ceremony marking the retirement of Kadi Sheikh Hassan Amin Habash, chief justice of the Sharia (religious) Appeals Court, was held last week in the office of Religious Affairs Minister Yosef Burg. Attending the ceremony were the minister, top officials and kadis from various Moslem courts.

Double-murder case

TEL AVIV. — Reputed drug boss Shmaya Angel, his wife, and two other suspects will be indicted this week for involvement in the "Turkish Connection" double-murder, police said last week.

Angel will be charged with the murder of alleged gang member Michael Nahmias, but will not be accused of slaying the dead man's girl-friend, Shulamit Sheli. Angel's wife Sarah, will, however, be charged with involvement in both murders.

Landscape architects

HAIFA. — Zvi Miller of Haifa has been elected president of the International Federation of Landscape Architects.



The remains of Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna and a nun, who were killed during the Russian revolution in 1918, are now on display at the St. Mary Magdalene Church in Jerusalem's Gethsemane.

Duchess' remains displayed

By ABRAHAM RABINOVICH

Six decades after being retrieved from the bottom of a bloody mine shaft in the midst of the Russian revolution, the remains of Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna — granddaughter of Queen Victoria and sister-in-law of the last Russian czar — have been removed from the underground crypt of the White Russian church in Jerusalem's Gethsemane and placed inside the church for public viewing along with the remains of the nun, Barbara, who was killed with her.

The synod decided to canonize the millions of victims of the Russian revolution, said Father Anthony.

Following the decision, he supervised the opening of the five-in-one coffins and found the remains partially preserved. "When I opened the last coffin, there was a smell of jasmine, and wax and some chemical," Father Anthony said, however, that no preservatives had been used on the bodies. He ascribed the preservation to the saintly aura surrounding the remains.

During a five-hour ceremony last week, the original wooden coffins were placed inside the church door on a specially prepared stand. Attending were Archbishop Anthony of Los Angeles, Archbishop Paul of Sydney, Australia, Archbishop Lauris of Syracuse, N.Y., and Bishop Gregory of Washington.

In examining the bodies, Father Anthony discovered a small wooden cross of the kind normally worn by nuns on the person of the grand duchess, suggesting that she had secretly taken vows. He noted that she had visited Jerusalem in 1888 to attend the dedication of the church in which her remains are now interred.

"She said then that she would be happy to be buried in Jerusalem," Father Anthony said. They were killed on June 18, 1918 at Alapaevsk, a day after Czar Nicholas II and his family and servants were killed at Ekaterinburg. According to Father Anthony, the grand duchess and the nun were thrown alive down a mine shaft and grenades were thrown after them. The town was captured by the White Russians three months later; who found the bodies in the mine well preserved. The bodies were placed inside a series of five coffins in order to thwart any attempts at their removal — the wooden coffins holding the bodies being enclosed by other metal coffins which were sealed by welding and wooden cof-

fins shut with nails and glue.

In the midst of the revolutionary turmoil, the bodies were transported through Siberia to China, from where the British navy carried them to the Holy Land. The burial in Gethsemane's onion-domed St. Mary Magdalene Church took place in 1920 with the attendance of the British Mandatory high commissioner and other dignitaries.

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THE REGION

Washington willing to sell major arms to Jordanians

By WOLF BLITZER

Jerusalem Post Correspondent
WASHINGTON. — The U.S. is prepared in principle to sell Jordan two squadrons of F-5G fighter aircraft as well as Stinger hand-held surface to air missiles, well-placed U.S. officials confirmed last week.

For the time being, however, the Reagan administration will not approve the sale to Jordan of more advanced F-16 fighters or mobile Hawk anti-aircraft missiles.

A delegation of senior U.S. officials, led by Assistant Secretary of Defense for International Security Affairs Francis West, met the week before last in Amman with Jordanian officials to discuss possible

U.S. arms sales. They convened under the auspices of the U.S.-Jordanian joint military commission.

State Department spokesman Dean Fischer said last week that he could not confirm reports of the U.S. arms sale to Jordan. Other state department officials said that only tentative agreement had been reached.

But reliable U.S. officials said that the deal for the F-5Gs and the Stingers had been virtually wrapped up during last week's meetings in Amman. They said that the administration might delay submitting the package to Capitol Hill for the required approval until after the November congressional elections.

JERUSALEM POST POLL

Over 50% oppose concessions in peace treaty with Jordan

By MARK SEGAL

Post Political Correspondent

TEL AVIV. — More than half the public would oppose a peace treaty with Jordan if it involved conceding parts of Judea and Samaria, (the West Bank) according to the latest *Jerusalem Post* poll conducted by the Modi'in Ezerachi institute of research among a representative sample of 1,260 adults held in the first half of April.

The question asked was: "Are you for a peace treaty with Jordan if it entails an Israeli commitment to withdraw from parts of Judea and Samaria?"

The response was: Not ready to make any concessions, 54.5 per cent; willing to concede certain areas, 27.1 per cent; willing to concede all of Judea and Samaria except for East Jerusalem, 10.3 per

cent; willing to concede all of Judea and Samaria (including East Jerusalem), 2.7 per cent, and undecided, 5.4 per cent.

Institute director Dr. Sara Shemer pointed out that those categorically against concessions and those ready to support a treaty only if concessions involved certain areas comprised 81.6 per cent of the public.

Analysis of the data indicated a correlation between voting patterns and respondents' answers. Two-thirds of those who voted for the Likud last June opposed any concessions in Judea and Samaria, with only one-third of Labour Alignment voters endorsing this stand. This hawkish position was particularly strong among the 18-19 age group voters, Israelis born in Africa, and religious and traditional people.

Behind the Saudi 'peace'

By DAVID BERNSTEIN

Post Middle East Affairs Reporter

Saudi Arabia last week called on the Arabs to launch a "peace offensive" against Israel, saying that this could prove more "devastating" than war.

"Israel is afraid of peace, and that is why it talks so belligerently," the Saudi state radio said in its main political commentary.

"The question," it continued, "is whether the Arabs can challenge Israel through a clear-cut pan-Arab plan, to show that it is capable of enduring the consequences of peace and existing in the post-peace era."

The reference to a "clear-cut pan-Arab plan" appears to be a reference to Saudi Arabia's own eight-point programme, floated last August but torpedoed by Arab

radicals led by Syria at last November's summit in Fez.

The floating of the plan has been viewed as Saudi Arabia's own opening shot in a "peace offensive" apparently designed to isolate Israel internationally by putting forward calculatedly unacceptable peace proposals and forcing Israel into a rejectionist pose.

Sudan's Ja'afar Numeiri last week also backed an Arab peace move, calling on the Arab countries to follow Egypt's example and negotiate with Israel for the territories lost in 1967.

In an interview with the Cairo daily *al-Ahram* published last week, Numeiri is quoted as saying: "Egypt has succeeded in regaining its land through war and peace. The way is now open for the Arabs to benefit from the same options."

Egyptian youth will rebuild Yamit

CAIRO (UPI). — Egypt has decided to rebuild Yamit, the newspaper *al-Ahram* reports today.

The newspaper said the town, razed to the ground by Israeli troops before last month's pull-back from Sinai, will be reconstructed by young members of President Hosni Mubarak's National Democratic Party.

The first group of young men will be sent to the area at the beginning

of July to launch the reconstruction project, it said.

Another newspaper, the weekly *Maya*, said the waters of the Nile will reach El-Arish, the largest town in Sinai, for the first time in July.

El-Arish, on the Mediterranean coast, is about 160 kilometres east of the Suez Canal.

The newspaper said the water will be carried by pipelines to El-Arish, at a cost of \$19m.

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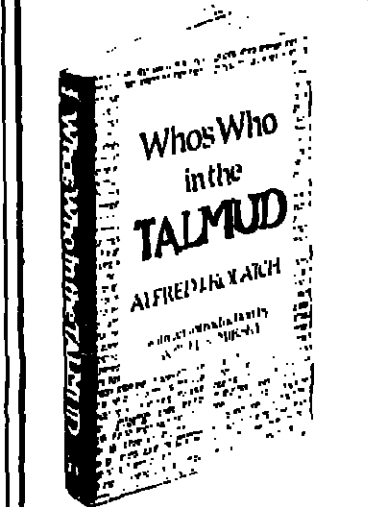
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by ALFRED J. KOLATCH With an introduction by SAMUEL K. MIRSKY

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UNITED KINGDOM & EUROPE (GMT)

6 a.m. — 21780, 15585, 15105, 11840

11840 — 13, 19 & 25 metre bands 12 midday 21780, 21825, 17830, 15405 kHz — 13, 17 & 19 metre bands

8 p.m. — 21495, 17830, 15585 15425 kHz — 13, 17 & 19 metre bands 1030 p.m. — 17795, 17830, 15585, 15425

11840 kHz — 17, 19 and 25 metre bands

SOUTH AFRICA (GMT + 2 hours)

10 p.m. — 17885 & 9009 kHz in the 17 & 30 metre bands

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10 p.m. — 1

SINCE THE top level of any U.S. presidential administration can usually focus on only one foreign policy crisis at a time, Israel has won a respite of sorts as a result of the Anglo-Argentine conflict over the Falkland Islands.

Before the Falklands crisis erupted seemingly out of the blue, President Ronald Reagan, Secretary of State Alexander Haig and other senior U.S. officials had planned a major American-led push to put some new momentum into the stalled Palestinian autonomy negotiations. Their scenario envisaged an Israeli withdrawal from Sinai — to be followed by a new autonomy initiative.

That, of course, could have been expected to put some new strains in the U.S.-Israeli relationship, given the wide differences between the American and Israeli perceptions of "full autonomy" for the Palestinians on the West Bank and Gaza. As is well understood by seasoned Israeli diplomats, the American position on most of the key issues is much closer to that of Egypt, although they are by no means identical.

Yet now, with the Falklands conflict dominating the attention of all top policy-makers in Washington, the Israeli-Egyptian talks on autonomy for the Palestinians have once again been relegated to the diplomatic back burner — as they were throughout the first 16 months of the Reagan administration. Secondary officials may still be working on the problem, but the president and his cabinet simply do not have the time to get personally involved.

After all, Britain is still America's Number One ally. And Argentina, while ruled by a military junta, is still within the Western sphere. As

Calm before the storm

Israel is enjoying a relative absence of international pressure, but this will not last for long after the Falklands conflict is resolved, warns *Post* Washington Correspondent WOLF BLITZER.

such, it automatically deserves special American attention. For the Reagan Administration, therefore, trying to resolve the Anglo-Argentine conflict is considerably more urgent than Palestinian autonomy.

U.S. OFFICIALS, while recognizing these facts, are cautioning that the Falklands crisis is not going to last forever. In the not too distant future, they say, some sort of diplomatic cease-fire — if not an overall solution — is going to resolve the situation.

That will enable Reagan and his team of foreign affairs specialists to go back to their original game plan — namely, to see whether an autonomy framework can yet be achieved between Israel and Egypt. Even as the Falklands crisis continues, the Americans are going through the motions of trying to resume the autonomy dialogue. But everyone in Washington recognizes that without the personal involvement of the top U.S. leadership, no serious progress is likely.

Thus, the special U.S. autonomy negotiator, Richard Fairbanks, himself a relatively low-level official, will return to the Middle East this week with some new ideas. A newcomer to Middle East affairs, he has been studying all the problems very intensely these past three months. But no real breakthrough should be expected until Reagan and Haig personally

roll up their sleeves and meet with Prime Minister Menachem Begin and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak. Most American officials recognize that political fact of life. Great expectations about Fairbanks have not been created.

ISRAEL HAS derived some other indirect benefits from the Falklands conflict — in addition to this delay in pushing the autonomy talks.

For one thing, news about Israel and the continuing disturbances on the West Bank and Gaza Strip have been taken off the front pages of America's newspapers. The major U.S. television networks, under more normal circumstances, would have given prime time and dramatic coverage to these latest Palestinian shootings. But this past week, they have barely been mentioned because of the Falklands.

Even the United Nations, which spends the great bulk of its time worrying only about Israel, has become preoccupied with the Falklands crisis. "That won't last very long," one Israeli diplomat said. "Without us, the UN would go out of business."

As Argentine and British casualties mount, it would seem ridiculous to consider any other international crisis, even the Arab-Israeli conflict.

YET WHILE American officials recognize that their own attention span can be given only to one major

foreign policy crisis at a time, they still are very worried about the Middle East. Specifically, they still suspect that Begin and the Israeli Government could try to take advantage of the Falklands crisis by doing "something crazy."

Rightly or wrongly, the Israeli Government in recent months has gained an unfortunate reputation among senior U.S. officials as rather "duplicitous." They believe, for example, that Begin used the Polish military crackdown on the Solidarity labour union last December as a cover for his legislative push to extend Israeli law to the Golan Heights. The world's attention was focused on Poland, the Americans charged, and Begin "thought he could get away with it."

It is exactly that kind of fear which has made Washington rather edgy right now about Israeli actions. One thing is certain, according to well-placed Americans. If the Israeli Government should try to "take advantage" of America's preoccupation with the Falklands crisis by breaking the cease-fire with the PLO along the Lebanese frontier or by knocking out the Syrian surface-to-air SAM missiles in the Bekaa valley or by any other such surprise "unilateral action," American frustration with Israel might overflow the usually acceptable limits.

Indeed, there is good reason to believe that Washington has

delicately but clearly conveyed its concern to Jerusalem about this very point in recent days. "They know how we feel," one American official said, without elaboration.

THAT THE Americans have come to have such a low-level of trust in their Israeli "ally" is merely one more indication of Israel's reduced image in the executive branch of the U.S. government.

Indeed, hearing some angry U.S. officials privately talk about Israel, one might think the two countries were adversaries, rather than allies.

U.S. officials, of course, put most of the blame directly on Begin. Israeli officials, on the other hand, point out that Washington itself has backed off from earlier commitments to Israel — witness, for example, the Reagan Administration's decision last year to enhance Saudi Arabia's F-15 fighters with offensive equipment and AWACS surveillance aircraft. That certainly did not build any confidence in Jerusalem.

In any case, as former Middle East ambassador Sol Linowitz recently said, the Palestinian question is not about to disappear — no matter how many other problems develop in the world and how preoccupied Washington and the American media may become with them.

"Time is not on the side of peace," he said. "This area is subject to explosion, eruption, at any point. Among the most explosive of all the issues is the Palestinian question. It is not going away if we choose not to deal with Israel."

So even if Israel can catch its breath between the Sinai withdrawal and the start of painful autonomy negotiations, which will require even more difficult decisions, it won't last for long.

further, its majority in the Knesset will be perfectly free to rescind this decision at a later date.

The members of Begin's government and the members of his party, however, endorsed the proposal. Are they aware of all its implications?

The Camp David agreement laid down that the final disposition of "the West Bank" and Gaza would be determined by negotiations between Israel, Egypt, Jordan and the representatives of the Arab residents.

Taxed in the past with the inescapable conclusion that this ruled out Israeli sovereignty, Begin has replied that in that case the autonomy regime (by then in operation five years and more) would continue. This was a fatuous reply — but he kept on insisting that in no circumstances would he agree to any but Israeli sovereignty.

He has now abandoned that position. Now he lays down that an Israeli government negotiating in the future must insist on the continued existence of the settlements (in Judea, Samaria and Gaza). What does this mean if not that he envisages the surrender of sovereignty over territory?

With the loss of Sinai, the confidence of the Arabs in final victory over Israel has become much greater. A responsible opposition, instead of continuing to disseminate in automatic repetitiveness, the false formula of a compromise peace, would be warning the people that the idea of a compromise is a mirage; that they must stiffen their resolve against the dangers that face our nation and our state.

That alone is the way of hope. (The writer is a former aide to Premier Begin)

Published weekly: May 9-15, 1982

Excerpts from an open letter by a Palestinian writer and politician

PALESTINIANS representing the population of the West Bank and Gaza will soon meet in Damascus to discuss the problems facing their leadership, and the future of that leadership. As a Palestinian, I would like to put several suggestions before them.

You can take a major step forward — and embarrass Israel — if you exercise moderation and recognize today's political realities. Israeli extremism feeds on your extremism. You must, therefore, renounce your own violent tactics and terrorism. You signed a cease-fire in southern Lebanon with the UNIFIL forces; extend the cease-fire for one year — a year in which you explicitly forsake your strategy of violence. Devote this year to peaceful efforts and negotiation. If this truce does not prove worthwhile, you can then break it; but you should not let yourselves be provoked too easily into giving up a period of peace. Exercise a cool restraint.

You must realize that the article of the Palestinian Charter calling for the destruction of Israel seriously damages your credibility, poisons your world-wide image, and hinders your efforts. It also affects the reputation of all the Palestinian people in the eyes of the world.

No national charter is unchangeable holy writ. History shows that many great nations have abandoned elements of their national charters for the good of the people. Rather than crying out for the destruction of Israel, why don't you allow yourselves to praise the moderate Israeli voice which is honest, just, and loudly opposed to the mistreatment of the Palestinian people in the occupied areas? Those of us who live under the occupation are aware — and grateful — that the traditional Jewish sense of justice and compassion for oppressed people has been frequently outraged and has expressed its sympathy with the Palestinian people. It is to your advantage to praise the good while you accuse the wrong-doers.

THE PALESTINIAN Resistance Movement must make an immediate decision. Is it a liberation movement or a national independence movement?

The movement should adapt its strategy on the basis of the realities it faces. Its tactics should not, under any circumstances, contradict the strategy of liberation. At the same time the strategy of independence should take into full account the truly possible and the obviously impossible — as well as the limits to which the movement's regional and international allies will support its goals. Mixing the two strategies and tactics will only cause us to abandon the possible for the sake of the impossible. The history of the Palestinian conflict is full of such mistakes. Our current situation is a result of this lack of vision of political realities.

You are, I know, keenly aware of the nature of the social, political and economic structures of the Arab regimes — structures which are artificial and corrupt. Such structures work only to our detriment. The fact is that all the Arab powers are not founded on the support and loyalty of the people, but on the military, intelligence and police agencies' iron grip on those people.

And you should know by now that the Palestinians have always been one of those things which



Dear PLO members,

those Arab regimes give up, abandon, and sell out. Have you ever heard of an Arab head of state who resigned his office because his policies led to national disasters, or caused the loss of national territories and dignity?

EGYPTIANS, Syrians, Moroccans, Jordanians, and Iraqis — as well as Palestinians — fought in the October 1973 war. How little we know today of those soldiers who sacrificed their lives for national pride and ambitions! We know only one thing — the heroes of the October War were President Sadat and President Assad. How many regimes treat their national martyrs only as a means of establishing their

own personal, patriotic glorification? How can those leaders feel any sense of belonging to the Arab soil and Arab aspirations?

These confusing and crippling entanglements have to be dealt with before you can progress one more step. The Palestinian movement and its resistance forces must redirect their activities and policies specifically and only to the problems in the West Bank and Gaza.

'You can take a major step by exercising moderation and recognizing realities'

own personal, patriotic glorification? How can those leaders feel any sense of belonging to the Arab soil and Arab aspirations?

YOU CANNOT DENY that the Palestinian resistance leadership failed to anticipate and to counter Israel's tactics of dealing with the movement's military activity. Israel succeeded in forcing back the resistance's military forces from the frontiers into the villages and cities of neighbouring countries. This resulted in conflict and misunderstanding between the resistance fighters and the local civilian populations.

Another consequence was that many Palestinian groups came to place a higher priority on their allegiance to this or that Arab regime than on their loyalty to Palestinian goals. And in the end, many Palestinian resistance groups — either deliberately — or unwittingly — found themselves actively involved

We want a genuine democratic state — especially since this new state will find itself alongside the nation of Israel, which we must admit, is an authentic and truly democratic country. Because of this, I beg of you to urge all Palestinians to start today preparing plans, projects, and agendas for this would-be democracy. Let us support, from this day, laws for free elections, a system of education and public health, a body of courts, and all the vital accoutrements of a modern, democratic nation. Let us plan for a state where any Palestinian who speaks out against the policies of a foreign minister will not be labelled as a CIA agent or a Zionist, and put in jail for his opposition.

Let us plan for a state in which the ordinary Palestinian citizen will be protected and given full civil equality as his right; a state in which the Palestinian way of life is a proud and worthy thing; and a state which will be proud to ally with other free, stable and democratic nations, rather than with reactionary,

in Arab rivalries, against one another.

And in the West Bank and Gaza, the protest movement is constantly discouraged by the reaction of the Arab states. Arab land is confiscated; persons are deported; mayors are fired; territories are annexed — and we watch the various Arab foreign ministers rush to the UN, calling for an urgent meeting, and then weeping when the American ambassador vetoes their draft resolution. This scenario is repeated over and over, but it has never once helped us. On the contrary, it damages Palestinian morale. The West Bank and Gaza is lost dunam by dunam, day by day, and the Israel iron grip tightens dai-

ly. And we are given national songs, fiery speeches, and condemnatory statements which the Israelis throw into the wastebasket.

It is instead the Palestinian political movement in the occupied areas which is divided, which falls into the traps set by the Israeli administration. And other Arab divisions and rivalries, unfortunately, express themselves in the problems of the West Bank and Gaza — he who does not agree with Iraq's fight against Iran is branded as a traitor to other Arab causes. He who accuses the communists of using Palestinian miseries to achieve their own political ends is seen as some sort of Israeli spy. And whoever criticizes those "big mouths" who insist on babbling about everything to hide the fact they know nothing is reported as a "dangerous" anti-PLO advocate. And then he who points a finger at a mayor who at first took J.D. 20,000, then J.D. 40,000 from his municipality's account in Amman, is denounced in the streets as a

betrayal of his people.

AND THEN there is the sort who goes off to Amman or Beirut, and has lunch with some PLO official — maybe a minor functionary — and returns home as some kind of spokesman for the PLO. He then likes to threaten his neighbours not to say this or not to do that.

The question of representing the PLO is a weighty and sensitive one. It has turned into, I regret to say, a personal representation in the occupied areas.

Let me point out that our people look to the PLO as a symbol of national aspiration. You must stop those persons in the West Bank who tell the foreign media, "The PLO is our only representative," and then turn to us demanding blind obedience, blind loyalty, and even blinder eyes.

It seems to many of us that every one of those West Bank personalities who wave the PLO banner insists on speaking and behaving as if he is the PLO itself. Those individuals who speak too much do not know the time to be silent; and when they remain silent, they do not know it is time to speak out.

THE ESTABLISHMENT of the Palestinian-Jordanian joint committee has created divided loyalties, as well as giving rise to an idea of the PLO as a charitable organization. It has also led to a feeling of bitterness among people in the occupied areas that we are money-receivers and paid for what we are doing here. We angrily reject such an idea — we act on behalf of ourselves, not on behalf of other Arab nations. We are defending our own land and the future of our children and our grandchildren.

No one questions that the PLO has established world-wide support for the Palestinian cause, and we appreciate that Palestinian rights have become an issue on several international fronts, but this diplomatic public relations campaign needs some review. We hear certain explicit questions put to us by the Europeans, Americans, and other powers, yet we avoid giving the world a clear answer.

Our representatives and spokesmen must reply honestly and directly to their questions (and even demands) about living alongside Israel in peace, renouncing violence, mutual recognition on both sides, let us hope, and a willingness to deal with the issues facing us both.

I FULLY recognize the amount of courage needed to come forward with a peaceful Palestinian gesture, as I fully realize the risks involved. But courageous calculations are necessary when one's personal fate is concerned. When it comes to the fate of a people, when it concerns the suffering of the same people, and when it has to do with the political realities of the Middle East, the future of the Palestinian people and this land ought to be handled very, very courageously, whatever the risk. History reserves its longest pages for such courage.

ABU ZEER EL-GAFFARI

This is from the third of three open letters by Abu Zeer El-Gaffari to be published by The Jerusalem Post. The first was to Prof. Menachem Mitrach, head of the civilian administration in the West Bank; the second was to King Hussein of Jordan. The writer has chosen to use a pen-name.

THE FIRST debate in the Knesset after the surrender of Sinai brought into stark relief Israel's most besetting weakness. As the country enters the most dangerous phase of its existence since the War of Independence, its citizens are compelled to ask themselves: how can one take seriously the national leaders, in government as in opposition?

Labour Party leader Shimon Peres had no difficulty demonstrating the manifest untruthfulness of the prime minister's "revised" version of the circumstances of the Knesset's decision in September 1978 that the Jewish presence in Sinai must be brought to an end "for the sake of peace." It is all plainly recorded in the Knesset protocols.

It is true that the Alignment opposition voted for that Knesset resolution only because the prime minister intimidated them into believing that if the Knesset insisted that the settlements be retained, the Camp David agreement would be nullified (and there would be war).

But Peres and his colleagues had failed to examine the significance of the prime minister's report. They knew that from the outset of the negotiations with Egypt, nine months before the meeting at Camp David, Egyptian President Anwar Sadat had insisted, and indeed vociferated, that not a single Jew should remain in Sinai.

Begin, in his original "peace plan," had offered to surrender all of Sinai, including the Jewish towns and villages, with the single qualification that the Jewish residents be free to remain there — within Egyptian sovereignty. It was a small "concession" to ask for.

The settlements at the far corner

Grim consequences

The adverse effects of the peace process are becoming evident — very quickly, writes SHMUEL KATZ.

of Sinai from Egypt were no threat to Egypt — if Egypt meant peace. They did, indeed, constitute an impediment to a future Egyptian offensive against Israel — which is why the Alignment government had established them in the first place. "revised" version of the circumstances of the Knesset's decision in September 1978 that the Jewish presence in Sinai must be brought to an end "for the sake of peace." It is all plainly recorded in the Knesset protocols.

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The settlements at the far corner

This failure has been maintained to this day, and it found expression anew in last week's debate in the Knesset.

No, for all of Peres' justified criticism of the prime minister over his behaviour in 1978, it was not he, any more than Begin, who told the essential truth from the Knesset podium last Monday.

The voice that carried to the people the bitter truth behind the Knesset's decision of September 1978 came from outside the Knesset. It came from the ruins of a house in Yamit on April 25, when a woman, Lora Tzarchan, sobbing bitterly, cried out over the radio: "If it's peace, Menachem Begin, why — why — do we have to be expelled? Why does our house have to be destroyed? If it's peace, Menachem Begin, why could we not live together with Egyptians? If it's peace, Mr. Begin..."

In the background a child could be heard, apparently trying, through her own tears, to calm her mother. Maybe she did not understand that through the anguish of her mother's breaking heart there shone a deep and clear political perception, a perception lacking in the nation's leaders.

IT WAS INEVITABLE that neither the prime minister nor Peres should draw the public's attention to the comprehensive new propaganda campaign against Israel already launched by Egypt — as an in-

roduction to the clash over Judea, Samaria and Gaza.

The incisive 11-point plan, spelling out in effect the elimination of Israel, put up by the Egyptian ambassador to the "non-aligned" conference in Kuwait, had been preceded by a virulent attack on Israel two weeks earlier by the same ambassador, Abdul Magid, at the UN Security Council. Both speeches were flagrant violations of the peace treaty.

Nor did Peres or Begin find it convenient to refer to the vicious campaign which has, in fact, never ceased in the (government-controlled) Egyptian press against Israel, against its leaders, and against the Jewish people at large.

EVEN GRIMMER consequences of the "peace" with Egypt are unfolding, and more swiftly than might have been expected.

Peres suggested in the Knesset that it was a guilty conscience over Yamit that gave birth to the astonishing proposal by the prime minister, incorporated in a formal decision by the government, that it would be forbidden in any future negotiations to agree to the dismantling of settlements.

This is a decision that has the unusual feature of being at once cynical and nonsensical. If a future government (or the present one) decides to follow the precedent set by the Begin government in 1978 and to take the dismantling process



Walter Matthau: 'It's always a disaster...'



Jack Lemmon: 'Just you wait, Walter...'

The Odyssey Couple

OFF THE SCREEN as well as on, Hollywood's Odd Couple are a rare pair. We trudged after Jack Lemmon and Walter Matthau this week on a gruelling 13-hour whirlwind day of touring by plane, bus and foot, and the two stars never flagged for a moment. Indeed, they put in a performance that is hard to imagine other celebrities of their magnitude equalling.

They remained good-humoured and grinning in the face of endless flashbulbs, posing and posing again and again until the very last sabra had emptied his Instamatic. They signed their names enough times to form a two-man petition. They had a handshake and a greeting for everybody they met — and they seemed to meet everybody.

Lemmon does stand-up sthick even when he's sitting down. Matthau, like some obsessed politician, kisses babies when the cameras are clicking and kisses babies when the cameras aren't. From Jerusalem to the Emek, throughout the length of the Golan to a kibbutz in the Huleh Valley and back down to the capital, the Odd Couple just wouldn't quit.

The two actors are the most prominent names in a UJA Entertainment Mission comprising high-powered American film industry people. Included in the group, which is completing its visit this weekend, are day-time TV personality Monty Hall and wife Marilyn (producer of the *Golda* TV film), directors Arthur Hiller (*The Sting*) and Mark Rydell (*On Golden Pond*). Twentieth Century-Fox president Sherry Lansing, a crop of top behind-the-scenes personnel (producer, screenwriter, agent, attorney, accountant, etc.), spouses and occasional kids. But the attention inevitably focused on those two most famous faces.

LEMMON SAYS he fell in love with Matthau in 1964 when writer-director Billy Wilder took Jack to see Walter performing on Broadway in Neil Simon's smash, *The Odd Couple* (the other half of the stage couple was Art Carney). That experience led to the pair doing Wilder's *The Fortune Cookie* two years later, and *The Odd Couple* two years after that. By then, what Lemmon calls "the obvious special chemistry that Walter and I have on the screen" was established.

"But it's always a disaster for me, working with this putz," Matthau cuts in. "We did *Fortune Cookie* and

I had a heart attack. We did *The Odd Couple* and I developed ulcers. For *The Front Page* I was losing my marbles. When Lemmon directed me in *Kotch*, I actually developed a skin cancer. Now, most recently, in *Buddy*, Buddy, I busted my shoulder and tore my retina."

"Just you wait, Walter," Lemmon retorts. "Have I got a script for us!" Nearly the entire UJA mission is hanging on every word of this exchange, and with the punchline they break up. It's your typical UJA group, with the usual squeals over the hardy young kibbutzniks and the sexy little soldierettes, tongue-cluckings at the Syrian border and gasps of approval at the draining of the swamps. Typical, except that the group comes from celebrity-land.

As we board an Arkia plane for our flight to the north, for example, one wag asks, "Is this the junket for the Sands Hotel?" Vegas jokes. Comparisons between the Huleh and San Fernando valleys. Abundant "sweethearting" and two wheels actually talking a deal ("Hell, of course I can get Willie Nelson!") in the lobby of the King David.

But Matthau and Lemmon lift the whole experience to another level. On the Golan, for instance, we stop for lunch at an army camp (is there any other place to eat lunch on the Golan?) and the two stars are invited to address the troops after the "banquet."

Now get this: after shlepping around for hours on white-knuckle prop-flights and tour buses after facing Zahal cuisine (deep-fried schnitzel, cold chips, bourekas) in a packed mess hall, after trying to keep up the pretence of dining under the constant blaze of television lights — Lemmon and Matthau are asked to speak to a bunch of young sabras who may or may not have passed *bagrut* in English. And they're expected to be gracious about it. And they are. And they soon have the whole corps roaring with laughter.

"I'm sorry I have to speak to you in English," Walter begins. "When I was a kid, I did study Hebrew ... (pause as he looks at watch) ... for about five hours. All I remember is ... *Ala kelohainu, ain kemoshianu...*"

The Post's Matthew Nevisky joins Hollywood VIPs on a whirlwind UJA tour of Israel

WHEN THE LAUGHTER dies down, Matthau reminisces about his days in the U.S. Army Air Corps during World War II. "By sheer luck," he says, "they made me a sergeant. Of course, if I had been in Israel, I would have wound up as chief-of-staff..."

"But I'm overwhelmed with feeling for what you people are doing here. Stay as strong, happy and beautiful as you are. And now I'll turn it over to Jack Lemmon, who claims he's a guy. And, you know, whenever Lemmon speaks ... you can take a nap."

Wild applause supplies the bridge as Matthau, beaming from his beagle jowls, sits down and an energetic Lemmon leaps to his feet. As he begins speaking, he's asked to talk more slowly. "But I always have to talk fast when Walter's around — to get a word in!"

"Incidentally," Lemmon continues, "Walter was too modest to tell you about his truly heroic exploits in France during the Second World War. Singlehandedly, he liberated an entire French whorehouse" (the mess hall explodes in laughter). "And the funny thing was, he was so naive he didn't even know it was a whorehouse — he just thought it was a large French family with a lot of daughters" (the mess hall explodes all over again).

THE MAN who won an Academy Award for Best Supporting Actor in *Mister Roberts* (and Best Actor in *Save the Tiger*) apologizes to the troops for having been a Navy man in World War II. He jokes about his days in the service, and then concludes:

"I've been lucky in the course of my career to do a great deal of travelling around the world. But I can say that I have never seen such a pervading sense of common purpose as I've seen here in Israel. It's a

privilege to be here, and I thank you."

There is no doubt that Matthau, who last visited this country 20 years ago, and Lemmon, who is making his first trip here, are both genuinely turned on by Israel. They deferred to the troops' every request as if they were potential investors in their next picture, and left the base as excited about having met IDF soldiers as one would expect kids to be about meeting movie stars.

Still more requests for photographing, autographing, handshaking and banter on demand awaits the group at the foot of the northern Golan, at Kibbutz Lahavot Habashan. Most of the *meshek* has turned out to greet the celebrities. Tiny kids like their miniature Soviet counterparts timidly step forward to offer bouquets to the guests, and squirm under the hugs and kisses they get in return. Lemmon takes it all in his stride, alternately laid-back and animated. Matthau pinches tiny cheeks and tushies and chats in Yiddish with the older kibbutzniks.

Then the guests divide up for coffee and cake in individual members' homes. Lemmon, his actress wife Felicia ("Farfel"), and daughter Courtney trail off in one direction after a kibbutz couple. Matthau, wife Carol (before her 25-year marriage to the actor began, she was married twice to the late William Saroyan), and youngest son Charles, 19, are taken in tow by the Michaeli family.

Ron and Elana Michaeli and their two youngsters are straight out of central casting. He's a handsome son of the collective soil, and she's the Jerusalem-born daughter of Moroccan immigrants. The Matthauss and the Michaelis gather around the kitchen table — Walter inevitably ends up with an infant in his arms — and discuss the usual things *auslanders* want to know about collective life in Upper Galilee — the economics of it, matters of personal freedom, the security situation. Matthau expresses admiration for it all.

Later he confides to me: "We're building a new home out in California, and I'm stunned when I realize we'll have in it 22 television sets.

Sometimes I get scared by all the material rewards I get."

TWO VOLUNTEER girls just happen to show up at the Michaelis' little flat with cameras in their hands. Matthau learns they are from England and Australia, and accordingly switches back and forth from comic Cockney to Strine. Then after a half-hour or so, it's time to leave the kibbutz — under the usual sheet lightning of flashbulbs.

It's bus-plane-bus again back to Jerusalem. The group is more subdued now after a hard day's touring, but the two stars are still up for interviews with *The Jerusalem Post*. Lemmon bewails the current economic state of the movie industry, especially in matters like getting backing for serious dramas like *Save the Tiger*, which took about two years just to bankroll.

He says he's had no one favourite role over his long career. "I've just been fortunate to come across some really fine scripts. That's always the hardest part of this business for me."

MATTHAU SAYS he got into acting on the suggestion of a Red Cross nurse after he was demobilized in California. "She said I should take up either journalism or drama. So I went to New York. Actually enrolled in Columbia University's School of Journalism for a while. Then drifted over to the drama classes at the New School for Social Research. Had some stage roles, including Shakespeare, then started doing films in Hollywood."

"But it wasn't until years later, when I returned to Broadway for *Odd Couple*, that things really took off. I teamed up with that shmuggly Lemmon, got featured roles, saw my salary quadruple."

They are an Odd Couple, Bostonian John Uhler Lemmon III, Harvard graduate, 57 years old, and Walter Motteshanski, born 62 years ago in New York to Russian-Jewish immigrant parents. (Why weren't they cast as Woodward and Bernstein in *All The President's Men*?)

But their collective chemistry is up there on the screen for all to see, and their affection for each other is as genuine as their enthusiasm for Israel.

Their visit here, says Monty Hall, will do a great deal of good for the UJA, and by us that's A-okay.

PUBLIC FACES: The Begin bypass

By MARK SEGAL

STRANGE ALLIANCE? Histadrut Secretary-General Yeroham Meshel was all smiles after his midweek meeting with Prime Minister Menachem Begin, describing their exchange as a "cordial chat." That has caused some Beginologists to speculate that the Premier was not averse to the idea of helping the labour federation chief in his latest war of attrition with Finance Minister Yoram Aridor.

According to the theory, Begin is less than happy with Aridor's campaign to keep all economic activity in his own hands, *a la* Pinhas Sapir, the late Labour finance minister. Perhaps Begin agreed with Meshel that Aridor's plan for an across-the-board cut in real wages would cause too much unrest on the labour front during the coming year.

BEGIN'S COOLNESS towards Aridor is said to be due to the latter's Herut empire-building, from his seat as chairman of the party secretariat. The word at Herut is that Aridor has dared to court his chief's displeasure by campaigning in the party branches in advance of the party convention, while Yitzhak Shamir, Ariel Sharon and David Levy have not.

Aridor spends Thursdays in his 12th floor office at Metzudat Ze'ev the Herut headquarters in Tel Aviv. Shamir is there on Friday mornings, and Levy makes occasional appearances. Sharon does not maintain a presence at the Herut citadel, pinning his hopes for the future on charisma rather than organization.

WE REPORTED last week that Begin was seeking to postpone the Herut convention, now set for mid-June. But my Herut sources now indicate that the event may be put off until early next year. They say that Begin wants to avoid making the convention a Shamir-Sharon-Aridor battleground, and use it instead as a launching pad for an early election campaign next April.

ON THE RELIGIOUS front, Agudat Yisrael politicians are rarely at a loss for words. That was shown in the response of Menachem Porush MK this week to a news item about reported financial irregularities in the handling of IS20m. in government allocations designated for religious institutions linked to the wing led by Porush and Finance Committee chairman Shlomo Lorincz. Porush simply dismissed the stories as "anti-Semitic slanders."

Another example is the way coalition executive chairman Avraham Shapira dealt with Deputy Premier Simcha Ehrlich's sarcastic response to the decision to stop El Al flights on the Sabbath — "Why not stop Egged in Haifa, and football in Jerusalem?" Said Shapira: "I do not understand. Ehrlich was a signatory of the coalition agreement. He was certainly not drunk at the time."

FIXING THE BLAME. Liberal Party sources are fingerling Transport Minister Haim Corfu as the man responsible for the snafus on last week's Egged inaugural to Cairo. They say that Corfu "forgot" to inform Israel's Ambassador to Cairo Moshe Sasson that the first bus run would have aboard a group of dignitaries, including Corfu's Liberal deputy, David Shifman, and several MKs. Shifman, who is also Tel Aviv deputy mayor, certainly would have enjoyed the red-carpet treatment and the extra publicity.



The good ship "Love Boat" sailed into Ashdod Port last week and the stars of this popular American TV show promptly disembarked to visit Jerusalem as the guests of the Tourism Ministry. Segments of the series are being filmed in Ashdod as well as other Mediterranean ports. Left to right: Gopher (Fred Grandy); the captain (Gavin McCleod); Julie (Lauren Tewes); Isaac the barman (Ted Lange); Doc (Bernie Koppell). The girl in front is Vicki, the captain's daughter.



Violinist Isaac Stern finds a seat in the aisles at the Tel Aviv showing last week of a film which features him on tour in China. (Israel Sun)

TAMI'S Aharon Uzan has taken over the three portfolios of Aharon Abuhatzira, but the battle for the posts is far from over. After the Supreme Court rules on the ex-minister's appeal, the backers of Deputy Absorption Minister Benjamin Rubin and party secretary-general Binyamin (Fuad) Ben-Eliezer plan to push their case in party forums.

PROFESSIONAL INSULT. More than 40 members of the Tel Aviv University Faculty of Humanities this week signed a letter protesting against Begin's uncomplimentary

comments about Israeli historians, made in an article defending his decision to launch the re-opening of the Arlosoroff murder inquiry. The protest, organized by history Prof. Michael Harsagor, objected to Begin's statement that "I don't know who these so-called historians are ... Since the deaths of such scholars as Graetz, Dubnow and Klausner, there aren't any historians worthy of the name in Israel."

FAMOUS NAME. Mooted as a replacement for Ya'acov Neshushan, the Jerusalem Herutnik who has been serving as counsellor

Hunting the big givers

By JUDY SIEGEL
Jerusalem Post Reporter



Robert Loup, newly elected U.S. national chairman of the UJA.

DENVER is the hometown of Robert Loup, at 52 the newly elected national chairman of the United Jewish Appeal, and this should do away with the notion that New York City is synonymous with "the American Jewish community."

Loup is the president of a Colorado construction company specializing in shopping centres, but he is likely to spend most of the next two years in Manhattan, since UJA headquarters and the rest of the national Jewish establishment are still in New York.

His hometown has 42,000 Jews in a population of 1.6 million; fewer than half of them identify with the organized Jewish community. Half of Denver's Jews moved there in the past decade; and many of them have intermarried. Thus, the Jewish demographics of the Mile High City follow growing trends among American Jewry — trends that will affect the future of the UJA.

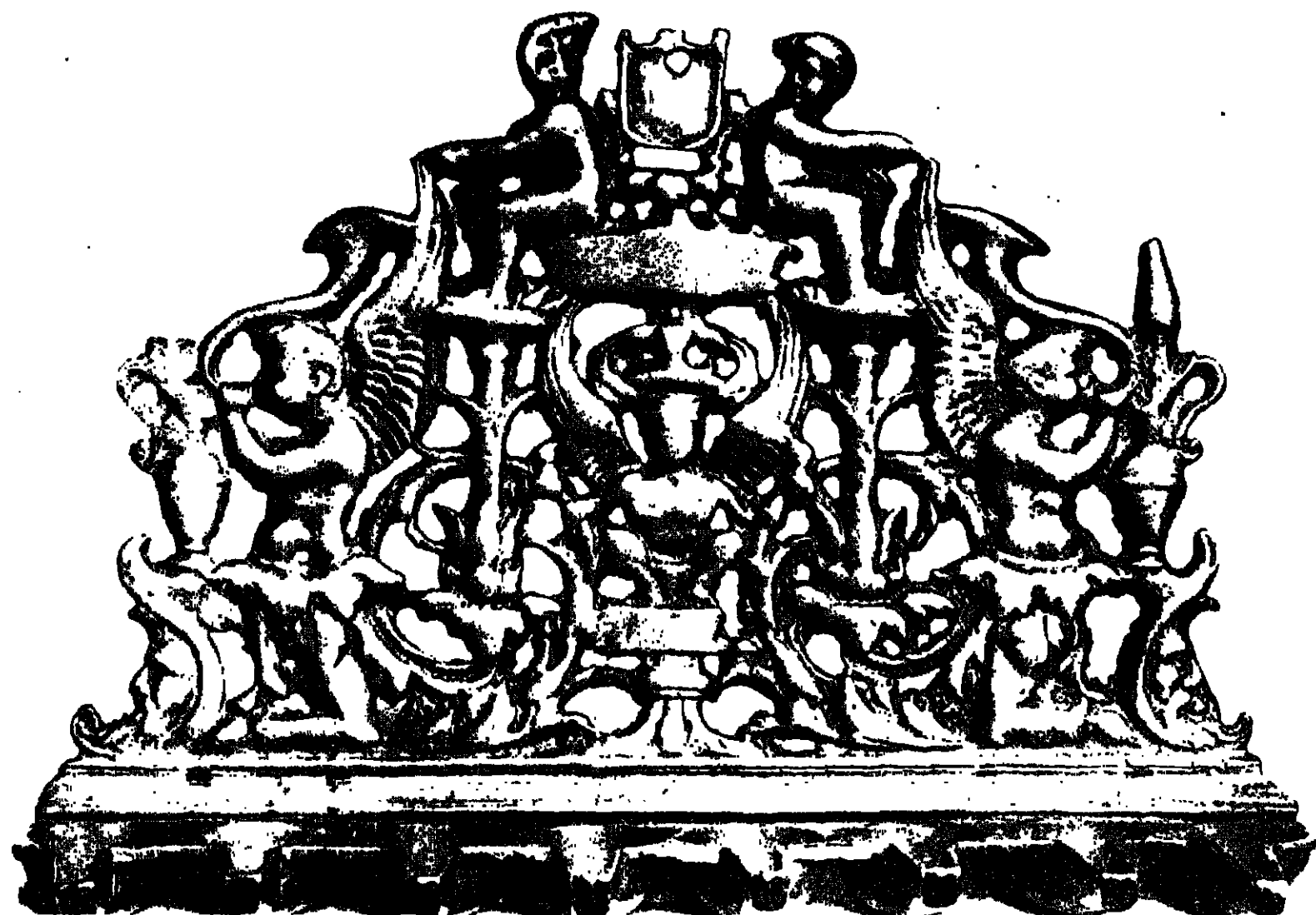
Loup, a tall, lean, soft-spoken man, says demographics also indicate that young Jews are going into salaried professions, rather than running their own businesses. "We won't see so many 'big givers' in the future. We'll have to spread the giving around among many more."

According to the UJA, 18 per cent of their donors contribute a full 80 per cent of the organization's collections, which last year totalled \$530m.

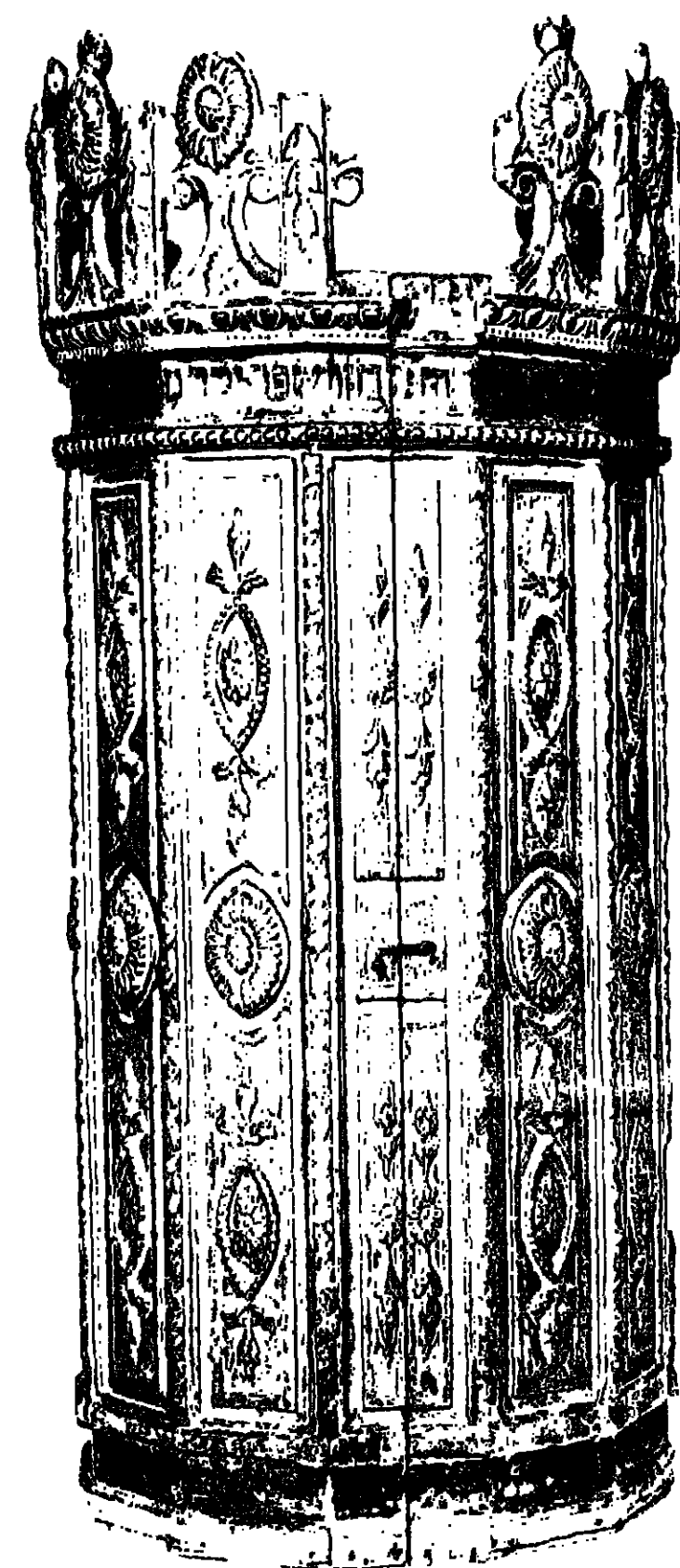
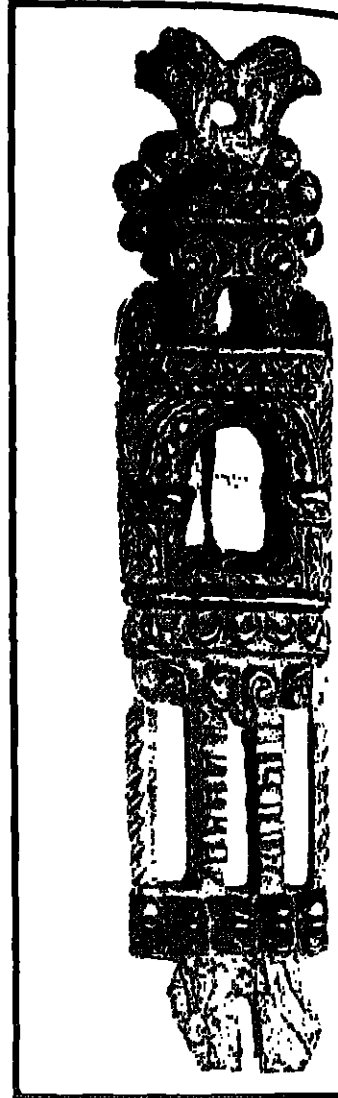
The role of women in fund-raising is also changing, and here Denver may be the trend-setter. Loup's wife, Charlene, also a native of the city, is this year's chairman of the city's Jewish federation campaign. (Loup himself held the volunteer job in 1974.) While a few other cities around the U.S. also have had women chairing their local UJA campaigns, Charlene Loup is the first to do so in Denver.

Because of such trends, the UJA — whose funds go to Israeli educational, health and social services, as well as to a number of international Jewish relief organizations — has opened a "new gifts department" to encourage young people and other "never-givers" to get involved by contributing and identifying with the Jewish community.

Loup, who first got involved in his community's local campaign as a result of the Six Day War, is well aware that "we sometimes frighten people away by making them think that we're only after their money." The UJA he says, is interested in "raising Jews through education as much as in raising money."



(Above) Cast bronze hanukkia was made in Italy in the 16th century. (Right) Mezuzah and case, in wood, Germany, 17th-18th century. (Below) Curved wood Ark of the Law was made in Modena, Italy.



Treasures from Paris

THE OLDEST existing and only known Western Medieval Ark of the Law, dated 1472, is one of the 170 objects of Jewish ritual art from the Cluny Museum and the Consistoire in Paris, which go on show at the Israel Museum next week. Most of the objects come from the first-ever collection of Jewish art in France, begun more than 140 years ago by a Jewish composer, Isaac Strauss. Also on show are items belonging to the Jewish community of Paris.

Strauss, the original collector, was born in Strasbourg in 1806 and became a leading figure in musical circles during the reign of Louis-Philippe and Napoleon III. In 1844, he was appointed musical director of the Thermal Baths at Vichy; in

1852, he became director of the Orchestra of Court Balls and the Masques of the Opera.

Strauss was also an avid collector. During his travels throughout Europe he assembled a group of Jewish ritual objects. The importance of this collection was in no way appreciated during his lifetime. But after his death in 1888, the Baroness Nathaniel de Rothschild acquired the 140 items on condition that the French nation accept them as a gift. In 1890, the collection entered the Cluny Museum, where it was on display until the outbreak of World War II.

Since Victor Klagsbald started working on the collection for the Israel Museum, the objects have been seen in special exhibitions in

Paris and Strasbourg; this is the first time they will be seen outside France.

THE RITUAL OBJECTS on display are representative of Jewish communities throughout Europe — France, Italy, Austria, Germany, Holland — and also from Morocco. The wide-ranging selection includes Torah breastplates, prayer books, spice-boxes, ketubot, Seder plates, wedding rings, Hanukkah and Shabbat lamps.

Of special interest and value are a number of pieces which date back to the 14th century. For example, a Hanukkah lamp from 14th-century France was found in the 19th century in the ancient Jewish quarter of Lyons. This would date the lamp

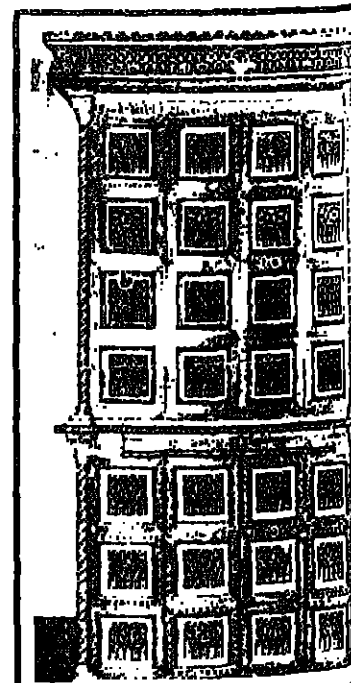
prior to 1394, the year of the expulsion of the Jews from the city.

A prayerbook from the Rhineland includes a calendar commencing in the year 1323.

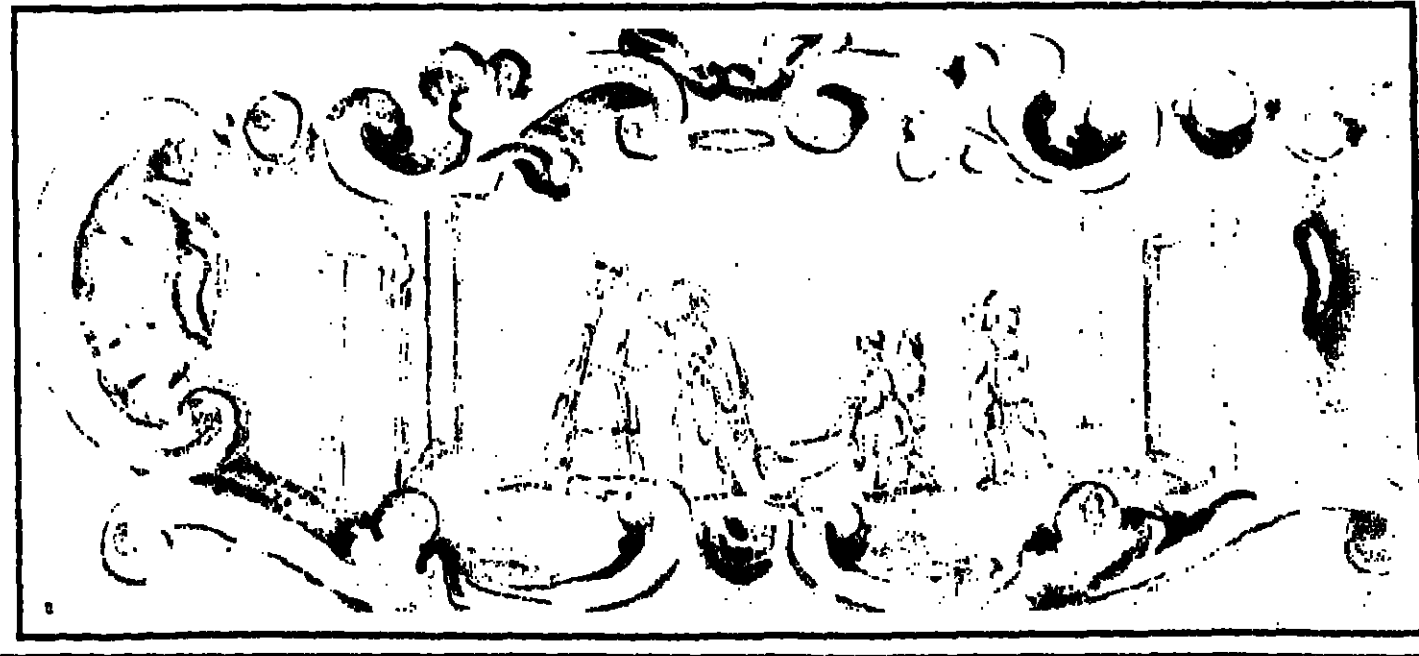
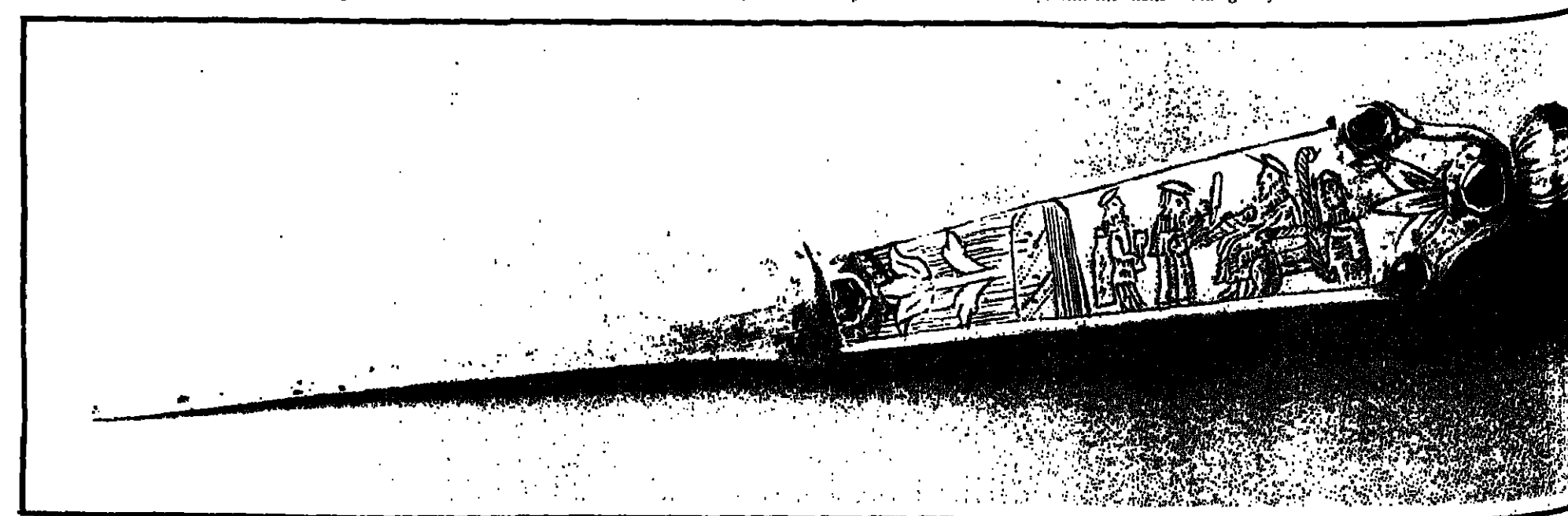
One of only five known objects which pre-date the Spanish Inquisition is included in this collection: a stone alms box dated 1319 and inscribed in Sephardi Hebrew. A selection of beautiful wedding rings includes one from late 15th century Italy made of gold and enamel, fashioned with a faceted roof of a symbolic building.

The show, organised within the framework of the cultural agreement between France and Israel, will be open for at least three months.

MEIR RONNEN



(Below) Silver-and-steel circumcision knife, made in Cracow in 1806-07, has on its handle a representation of the brit mila ceremony, with the mohel holding knife and the sandak, seated, with baby in his arms. (Below) Bronze medal, thought to have first been cast in 16th century, was reproduced in Heidelberg in 1667. Inscription reads 'King Solomon.' (Right) Illustration from Megillat Esther, Italy, 18th century.



Do-it-yourself education

HAIM CHERTOK explains how—and why—he took his son out of the school system for a year.

"YOU CAN'T do it! Maybe it's okay in America, but here you can't do it!"

This we heard, not from one Israeli friend but from virtually everyone we consulted — a unanimous chorus of cautionary astonishment. Ignoring this prudential din, my wife and I and our 12-year-old son Ted decided two years ago to withdraw Ted from the 7th grade class of his Dimona junior high school (religious) in order to take charge of his education ourselves.

"It's against the law!" (True.) "You'll go to prison!" (False.) "He'd be better off to tough it out!" (Nonsense.) "He'll never get back into the system!" (False.)

It's a small but significant virtue of being American in Israeli Wonderland that many people here think us more than a bit crazed for being here at all. It grants us, I think, a bit more room to proceed on our own set of assumptions in the face of Israeli norms. In our case, Ted's dropping out was more practical than ideological, a decision fuelled as much by despair as by hope. Fortunately, the incredulity of most Israelis was over-matched by the supportive and growing American and British community in Yeroham where we have lived for nearly five years now. Without their active help, we could never have succeeded.

WHEN WE FIRST moved to Yeroham from Beersheba, it was our American friends who thought us daft. Disregard significant work, fine housing, good *heva*, idealism, clean air — the schools of Yeroham were notoriously deficient. What would our kids do for friends and an education?

This concern somewhat puzzled us. After all, in our year in Beersheba our two older children had experienced enough local "quality" education to give them (and us) fits. How much worse could things be in Yeroham?

The answer to that is more complex than at first is apparent. For though the level of education in Yeroham (and Dimona) is lower than in Beersheba, the difference is more of degree than of kind. Looking back from the two-year perspective of "our experiment," we all feel that even, indeed — especially, educationally, the move to Yeroham was fortunate, for had we remained in Beersheba, Ted would probably have "toughed it out," and our experiment would never have occurred.

What happened? By the time Ted was ready to enter 7th grade, the Yeroham religious junior high had almost disintegrated, so he began his jhs-career in Dimona, 12 kilometres north. This school is well-enough staffed, but Ted's responses to "how he was doing" were equivocal. Although elected class secretary and getting good test grades, he seemed to have little homework, and classes too frequently didn't meet.

In what purported to be a special class, he reported (when we prodded a bit) behaviour which made normal class studies almost a fantasy.

At Hanukka, the end of the first third, Ted produced a report card



filled with 9s and 8s which, he admitted, mostly meant he wasn't a trouble-maker. After talking to his counselors and realizing that no real solutions were likely, we decided to take the drastic step of removing him entirely from any school system and, with more than a little help from our friends, teaching him ourselves. (I should note that this was facilitated by our ambiguous status of being Yerohamites in a Dimona school, Americans in a mostly Moroccan town.)

We would not have embarked on this path had we not concluded that keeping Ted within the Israeli school system was positively harmful. He was learning not to value but to waste his time, to equate the numbers on his tests and report card with getting an education. In the absence of any serious hopes of amelioration, and chary about sending our 12-year-old to board at some school or yeshiva 40 or 100 km away, we felt we had no real alternative.

HOW DID we proceed?

Our point of departure was that it was not worthwhile or wise to attempt to replicate the school curriculum. Rather, we saw home learning as an opportunity for Ted to learn *how* to learn, to learn to

take responsibility for his own education. At the start of each week, he would schedule his hours of classes, study, and outside activities. He was responsible to himself to fulfill the schedule which he (with our assistance at the start) created. And one of his first and most important learning projects was to keep a daily journal (in English). This became not only an instrument of self-reflection but a means to use and polish his English, which we all felt was important for him. (Now Ted is back in school but he still maintains his journal.)

Then I surveyed our friends and acquaintances to see which of them had the time and inclination to teach with regularity something he/she was enthusiastic about. The result was, I think, a curriculum which would be the envy of most schoolkids of his age. Twice a week, between 6-7 a.m., Ted studied Gemara with our neighbour Moshe. Both were cheered by the arrangement, and Ted, now in Yeshiva Or Elzion, gets top grades in his religious subjects. With another neighbour, Leah, Ted (for a semester) reviewed Hebrew grammar, read some stories, and wrote short essays in Hebrew. And for the entire year and a half Ted studied

mathematics once a week with Dina, a high school math teacher. In return, I (and later Ted himself) tutored their younger son in English.

BUT THESE were the more conventional subjects. Another friend, Yeroham *sofer* Shmuel Golding, was pleased to teach Ted *sofrot*! They met weekly, first learning the *halacha*, then beginning on the writing. Ted would sit in his room many hours, practising his hand. Today Ted possesses an unusual, useful, and rewarding skill.

Ted developed a friendship also with John Bernstein, an American student in Ramat Hanegev College's Overseas Programme. John was an environmental major, and he was delighted to share his naturalist pursuits with Ted. Many mornings they'd be off at 4 a.m. to the Yeroham Lake for a morning's bird-watching, and for a hike to watch the sunrise (and for a geology lesson) at the Yeroham crater. Ted became proficient at recognizing and collecting desert plants, which later he and John studied under a microscope on slides they made themselves. We had no worry that Ted would be behind his peers in science.

Ted and I worked together on

literature, my field. After some thought, we decided to focus on Greek literature because it seemed sufficiently self-contained to be cohesive, is important, and fun, and usually neglected in Israeli schools. Over the next 18 months, Ted and I read through background works like Edith Hamilton's *The Greek Way* and *Mythology*, Kitto's *The Greeks*, and Finley's *The World of Odysseus*. His "texts" were *The Illiad* and *The Odyssey*, the plays of Sophocles and Aristophanes (he didn't like Aeschylus) and the Platonic dialogues. After completing a work, Ted wrote a paper (in English), often comparing some aspect of it to a Biblical theme or character. The result is that Ted now has a fine background in Greek thought and literature, enjoys reading, and is able to write an acceptable essay in English.

INTERSPERSED among the Greeks we read other works like *Catcher in the Rye*, *A Separate Peace*, some of the *bagrut* stories, and novels by Mark Twain, Golding and Saroyan. All in all, I'm satisfied that Ted absorbed a love of books and learning.

Was Ted cut off from his friends? Hardly! A member of Bnei Akiva, he took part in all their activities. He did experience some difficulty explaining to them (and their parents) why he wasn't at school, and what he did at home. The whole concept was so foreign to most of them that he usually tried to steer clear of the subject. His friends were especially puzzled when, during a prolonged strike, they were free to play all day. Ted, of course, wasn't affected by the strike, and his learning proceeded normally. It was an ideal object lesson (which he fully appreciated) in the differences between learning and schooling.

Similarly, most of Ted's learning was largely unaffected by summer vacation. This wasn't at our insistence; the habit of learning had been acquired, and I expect he will retain it for the rest of his life. I suspect that the school authorities were aware of our "dereliction." They did not interfere.

IT WOULD be misleading to suggest that everything went smoothly, that Ted never felt isolated, never wasted an hour, and that there was no clash between the parental and teacher roles. But from very early on it was clear that we were embarked on an exciting experiment for us all. Things went so well that we never seriously considered enrolling Ted again in a regular school at the start of the 8th grade. I am certain that Ted and I are much closer than we would have been if I had not involved myself so intimately in his education. Now that he is 14 and lives away from home, we both miss our learning sessions immensely.

Obviously what we did is not the solution to the aplendid educational problems facing junior high kids and parents. But I am persuaded that an "American" pragmatic approach, combined with the Jewish notion that it is the father (not the system) who really is responsible for his child's education, can point in an instructive direction to others facing similar problems.

THE COMMUNITY

Games galore for Toy Fund

EVEN MISFORTUNE has its sunny side. The director of a Jerusalem-based toy manufacturing



concern was left with a huge stack of games on his hands when one of his major outlets went bankrupt. Rather than try to distribute them elsewhere, he decided to donate them to The Jerusalem Post Toy Fund, and as a result of his generosity, nearly 200 children in government institutions and in foster care will have a new game of their own.

Contributions from school children are still coming in. Rabbi Hillel Cohn, of Congregation Emanu El, San Bernardino, California, has forwarded a cheque on behalf of the children of the congregation's School for Jewish Living "in the hope that their brothers and sisters in Israel will know the joys of many happy holidays." And Rabbi Robert Rubin, of Congregation Agudath Israel in Caldwell, New Jersey, told his synagogue students about The Jerusalem Post Toy Fund during a Purim class. As a result, the youngsters decided to take up a special collection.

The most recent Toy Fund contributions of \$6,498.79 bring our total so far to \$596,080.86.

The list of Toy Fund donors includes: \$100 In memory of Jonathan Corin, a little boy whose life ended all too soon — Sam and Edith Weener, Marlborough, MA. \$50 Marvin S. Tannenbaum, Chicago, Ill (Zoo). \$39.74 From the children of the School for Jewish Living, Congregation Emanu El, San Bernardino, CA. \$30 Money earned by presenting two audiovisual shows — Marvin Green, Beverly, NJ. \$18 In honour of my nephew Steve Elbogen's 25th birthday — M. Herman, Millbrae, CA. DM 34 Joachim Greese, Kiel, Germany. \$12.64 Sunday School Class at Congregation Agudath Israel, Caldwell, NJ. — Lori Janice, Michael G., Daniel, Deanna, Michael P., Michael S., Melissa, Chad and Rebecca. \$1200 Esther Cohen Gaber. In honour of J. Shulov, a very dedicated friend of Matarav — congratulations on the birth of her grandchild, and with congratulations to Rudi and Rachel Doron on the birth of a grandson — Regina Boritzer, Jerusalem (Monkey House).

\$180 In memory of David Taube, Able and Dinah Tugendhaft — Anonymous, Jerusalem. \$5 Susan and Robert Rubin, New York, NY. \$154 Happy birthday Shlomo Shapiro — Anonymous, Jerusalem. \$130 For my grandchildren, Jonathan and Dan — Mrs. E. Lukin, Tel Aviv. \$100 Ruth Leberhertz, Ra'anana. \$1349.24 Alice Rothkowitz, Long Island City, N.Y.

\$1200 To celebrate the birthday of my beloved Sabra grandchild, Noam, who was 2 years old on April 8, 1982 — Mrs. Abraham Lieberman, Holon. \$180 To Yana — Refuah Shleims and a belated Hag Kasher Y'smacheh I love you — Marina, Jerusalem (Monkey House). \$7 B'nai Jacob Sunday School, Fort Wayne, Ind.

\$151 Eitan children — Michelle, Coby and Noah, Jerusalem (Monkey House). \$126 On the occasion of the birth of a new great-grandson and for all my grandchildren and great-grandchildren, Roni, Shl, Pease, Ilana, Dror, Shira and Din born on Feb. 17, 1982 — Sophie Aganovich, Tel Aviv.

\$50 Anonymous, Jerusalem. J.R. Jacobs, Kiryat Yam.

\$150 Anonymous, Jerusalem. J.R. Jacobs, Kiryat Yam.

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Jerusalem Post Reporter

biblical three score years and ten. Many of the contributions we have received for our "Forsake Me Not" campaign over the past few days have been in honour of the birthdays of people in their eighties and nineties. The eldest is Sam Border, of Jerusalem, who, at 98, is still spry and self-sufficient.

Please remember to make out a separate cheque for each fund. Send your contributions to The Jerusalem Post, POB 81, 91000, Jerusalem. Make sure that all names intended for publication are clearly printed.

With the latest gifts of \$51,655 the "Forsake Me Not" total has soared to \$1,289,849.46.

"Forsake Me Not" donors were: \$1,000 Ruth Luz, Philadelphia, PA. \$15,000 The Woodville Christadelphians of South Australia.

\$100 This is to express my joy for Israel's continued sovereignty over Jerusalem — with Christian Love, Harry Markell, Vancouver, Canada. Marvin S. Tannenbaum, Chicago, Ill.

\$12,000 In honour of our dear mother, Mrs. Julie Meyer-Feichenfeld's 90th birthday, on May 6 — Miryam and Paul Gieger, Haifa.

\$80 Gregory and Sally Bors, New York, NY. \$181 Anonymous, Cincinnati, OH. \$60 Sol Cassel, Los Angeles.

\$30 Alex Friedman, Afidar, Ashkelon. Bernard Lewis, Los Angeles, CA. Anonymous, Lancaster, PA.

\$15,000 In memory of our parents, Sarah and Aboud Cohen and Gilda and Joseph Finkelstein — Shirley and Nathan Cohen, Ra'anana.

\$40 Who is this King of Glory? The Lord of Hosts, He is the King of Glory, Psalm 24.10. — Anonymous, Moshav Elad, Elad and Guido Levi, Lausanne, Switzerland.

\$30 From the children of the Mount Vernon Lincoln Park Hebrew School, New York. Anonymous, Los Angeles.

\$23 Sara R. Snyder, New York, NY. \$500 Anonymous, Petah Tikva. In memory of my parents — Chana Freyman, Rehovot.

\$20 In memory of Helman (Haim) Goldstein — Brooklyn, a Hebrew, Zionist, Yiddish, a friend, Albert Rubenstein of Bushy, a friend and neighbour; Father of Leah Segal of Haifa; and Mother of Louella Mates of Pittsburgh — Ida Cohen Selevan, Pittsburgh, PA.

\$400 Blanche Bamberger and Betty Baum, Jerusalem. In loving memory of our sister Dorothy Schwartz of Beersheba, who died one year ago, but who will always live in our hearts and in the hearts of all who were fortunate enough to know her — Samuel and Hilda Katz Neuman.

\$18 Susan and Robert Rubin, New York, NY. Mollie Schwartz, Miami Beach, FL. \$1300 Esther Cohen Gaber, Hottinger, Ashdod, Anonymous, Kibbutz Haogen.

\$150 In memory of a birthday present for Ruth Weiss, Sayon — F. and K. Sayon.

\$10 In memory of my mother, Esther Malka Cohen (Klatsgorodsky) who died just before Rosh Hashana — Ida Cohn Salavan, Pittsburgh, PA. Freddy Malinger, Sydney, Australia. In memory of Leah Ben Shalom, Attar — Morris and Barbara Dagon, Briarcliff, NY.

\$1200 In honour of Mr. S. Bal's 85th birthday — from his fellow residents of Beth Jolan. In memory of Jack Gallant, London, Silver 23rd 5739 — S. Domb, Jerusalem.

\$180 In honour of our grandfather and great-grandfather's upcoming 80th birthday — Miri, Monie, Ora and Elad Rosenfeld, Maale Ephraim Field School, in memory of David Taube, Able and Dinah Tugendhaft, anonymous, Jerusalem, In honour of Mr. Jordan's 80th birthday — from her fellow residents of Beth Jolan.

\$120 From a group of Bridge players in Jerusalem.

\$100 The Thursday night bridge players, Givatayim, The Tuesday Bridge Club, Rimon (2nd contribution), Moshav Neve Ilan, Tuesday Bridge Club, Kiryat, In moving memory of my husband, Mendel Eshman — Ely Eshman, Tel Aviv.

\$598 In honour of the 98th birthday on May 15, of our dear friend Sam Border of Jerusalem — Helen and Sashia.

\$175 Ramat Gan Bridge Party (3rd contribution).

\$150 Maerton Davis, Kibbutz Lavi, Anonymous, Haifa.

\$136 (2 x \$181) Anonymous, Jerusalem. \$130 Sylvia Geller Thum, Tel Aviv. For my grandchildren, Jonathan and Dan — Mrs. E. Lukin, Tel Aviv.

\$422 Anonymous, Cincinnati, OH. \$200 In loving memory of our adored parents, Dorothy and Joseph Anderson and Sonia

and Harry Sklaroff, who are never for one instant absent from our hearts — Naonli and Ben Sklar, Netanya. In memory of Hanan Geyer (Alfus) — Frank Alfus, Teaneck, N.J.

\$125 Hanna J. O'Dell, Arcadia, CA. \$100 In memory of our parents, Hussia and Samuel Ovades and Hyman Kobb — Henry and Pearl Ovades, Norwalk, Conn. Hyman C. and Matilda B. Moser, Lauderdale, FL. In memory of our parents, Idror and Sarah Weener and William Klein — Samuel and Edith B. Weener, Marlborough, MA.

\$90 Jerusalem Chapter Bnei Brith, Johannesburg, South Africa.

\$15,000 Then Stern, Tel Aviv (2nd contribution) In memory of my daughter, Hafa Haim and Myriam Daus, Neve Shanan.

\$100 M. With, Tel Aviv.

\$30 In memory of my mother, Sophie Mulnick — Phyllis Vaccarella and Jerry Mulnick, in memory of father, Harvey Braverman — Monte and Stephen Braverman, West End, N.J.

\$45 The Northwest Community Mental Health Centre, Department of Health, has made this contribution to your fund in memory of Genevieve Fredkove Grossman, whose beloved daughter, Geraldine Grossman is a member of our staff, Chicago, Ill.

\$36 Fund get well wishes to Ephraim (Eph) Harris, Haifa, Art Critic of The Jerusalem Post — David and Carol Rosenblatt, E. Patchogue, N.Y.

\$32 Beverly Weener, Needham, MA. \$1500 Lili Kovetz, Peta Weiss, Tel Aviv.

\$1400 Mr. and Mrs. J. Nochemovitz, Jerusalem.

\$1300 Anonymous, Jerusalem. In honour of Bobbs — Anonymous, Ra'anana. In honour of our mothers with best wishes for life and good health — Bertha Levin, Jerusalem and Esther Solter, Haifa — Tova and Yehuda Solter, Ramat Gan.

\$18 In honour of the 95th birthday of our dear Aunt, Rebecca Berin — Gerry and Arthur Schneberg, Elkins Park, Pa. In honour of our grandchildren, Joe and Rose Greenspan, Bay Harbour, FL.

\$1300 Ruth Leberhertz, Ra'anana. In the name of Else Obermayer.

\$15 In honour of Ida Nudel — Mariel Shafner, Phoenix, AZ.

\$1250 From the Tzedakah box of Ahza and Arella Vogel, Ra'anana.

\$1200 Wednesday Bridge Circle, Givatayim (3rd contribution). In honour of our granddaughters, Shelley Kozlitsky — Sol and Ruth Pepper, Ramat Aviv. In memory of our dear parents, Sam and Beale Ark, Leeds, England — Sylvia Ark, Jerusalem.

Bridge Players, Beth Avot Bnei Brith, Haifa. In loving memory of my dear mother — Edith Sachs, Ramat Aviv. In memory of Herta, Rachel, Nitty, Ulla, Bridge Tel Aviv.

\$180 Alumni Association of the TI and SCIS of the Jewish Theological Seminary of America. In loving memory of our beloved grandpa Jenny, may she rest in peace — Gaby, Lisa and Ellen.

\$5 In loving memory of my dear brother-in-law, Leo Bab's birthday on May 24th — A.L. Cohn-Jones, Antwerp, Belgium.

\$140 In memory of Gert Rosenbaum, Haifa — her friends.

\$100 Anonymous, Ramat Aviv, Lillie Kay, Kibbutz Lavi, Rav Hadrassim, Jerusalem. In the name of Mrs. Rivka Schuber, in memory of Joseph Mandell — Dora Mandell, Tel Aviv. On the occasion of my birthday, which was on the first Hanukka candle — Sophie Aganovich, Tel Aviv.

\$50 Ziller, Tel Aviv. Anonymous, Jerusalem. J.R. Jacobs, Kiryat Yam.

\$140 I.C., Haifa.

\$125 Rachel Finkelstein, Tel Aviv.

New stamps approved

The cabinet last week approved a recommendation to issue stamps memorializing figures from different sectors of Israeli and pre-state Yishuv life.

The new stamps will carry the portraits of the late Labour Party leader Yigal Allon, Mizrahi leader Rabbi Meir Bar-Ilan, poet Uri Zvi Greenberg, and Hashomer pioneer Michael Halperin.

The recommendation was made by the ministerial committee on symbols and ceremonies.

Schreiber prizes to be awarded

Prizes worth \$1200,000 will be awarded on the coming Shavuot holiday for the first time by the Eugene Schreiber Fund to encourage the quality of life and the environment.



The children of moshav Pri-Gan, which was transferred from the Yunit area to the Shalom salient, plant trees in their new home. (Dekel)

Trees: luxuriant and forlorn

TORA AND FLORA
L.I. Rabinowitz

Portion of the Week: *Behar-Bechukotai*, Lev. 25. *Haf'arah*: *Jeremiah 16.19 — 17.14* The verse discussed is *Jeremiah 17.6*

IN THE HAFTARAH for this Sabbath the prophet Jeremiah, as do most of the Prophets, describes the wellbeing of the righteous man, as compared with the misfortune of the man who puts his trust in man instead of the God under a floral simile.

Whereas the former will be "as a tree planted by the waters... its foliage luxuriant... and it shall not cease to give fruit," the other shall be "like an *ar'ar* in the desert... which shall inhabit the parched places of the wilderness, a salt land not inhabited."

It is self obvious that the characteristics of this tree called the *ar'ar* in Hebrew are the opposite of those of the tree planted by the water, and most modern commentators unhesitatingly accept the identification given over a century ago by Henry Baker Tristram (1822-1906) rightly called "the father of the study of nature in Israel."

He identifies it with the tamarisk, or the juniper, which is actually

called by that name in Arabic, and writes, "There can be no doubt of the identity of this plant... which is the dwarf juniper, growing in the most barren and rocky parts of the desert. Its gloomy stunted appearance, with its scale-like leaves pressed close to its gnarled stem, and cropped closely by the wild goats, gives great force to the contrast suggested by the prophet."

The talmudic and early rabbinic authorities do not agree, however. It will be seen that, as is actually suggested by the prophet, the man referred to is not doomed to destruction, but to a joyless and largely useless life, and that quality is found in Tristram's description, that at least it provides subsistence for the goats.

That quality of limited usefulness seems to lie behind the rabbinic identification also. The Targum, the Aramaic translation of the Bible, renders it *akavir*, and the same translation is given of the *koiz*, the "thorn" of the "thorn and thistles" of Gen. 3.18, and it is mentioned in the Talmud (Bezah 34.a) as a wild herb which needs extensive preparation before it can be eaten, and is usually identified with the cardoon.

Incidentally Jeremiah repeats the name in 48.6 but there the Targum gives a different rendering.

Dutch couple joins Righteous Gentiles

Jerusalem Post Staff

Trus and Meindert Zaaleberg of Holland, who endangered their lives by sheltering two Jewish families in Nazi-occupied Holland, last week planted a tree in the Avenue of Righteous Gentiles and were awarded a medal at a ceremony in their honour at Yad Vashem Holocaust Remembrance Authority in Jerusalem.

In 1943, the Zaalebergs took the parents of Yitzhak Cohen into their Leiderdorp house — which was situated opposite that of the leader of the Dutch Nazi party — and hid them there until the end of the war. During that year they also hid the De Marcas couple in their home, and later transferred them to their summer house in Nordwijk to ensure their safety.

Controversy over stopping El Al's Sabbath flights

Dangerous mixture: politics and religion

'A nation's faith in democratic principles and its own political system tend to become eroded when government becomes religion's handmaiden,' says AARON LEIBEL.

THE DECISION by Agudat Israel to press for the closure of El Al on Shabbat and Jewish holidays is but the latest in a long series of attempts by the country's religious political leaders to use the power of the state to enforce religious mores. But neither the religious nor secular parties in the ruling coalition seem sensitive to the dangers inherent in the mixture of religion and politics in a democratic society.

This combination inevitably corrupts a nation's religious life, endangers society's democratic values and structures and produces a secular backlash against religion itself. Unfortunately, these processes have been set in motion by the imprudent actions taken by Agudat Israel and some members of the Zionist religious establishment during the past year.

Religion is ultimately a personal matter, dependent on faith and persuasion. Politics, on the other hand, is public and based on compromise and, in the final analysis, relies upon coercion. For this reason, the use of the state to enforce religious law tends to demean both the secular and the holy.

Government can enforce outward conformity to religious law, but is incapable of bringing about true religiosity among the citizens. It can prevent the sale of pork or El Al from flying on the Sabbath, but it is powerless to enforce true devotion to God or the love of one's neighbors — the essence of all religions.

BY ATTEMPTING to enforce religious laws, however, govern-

ments equate religion with formal, public observance of certain norms. Eventually everyone concerned comes to accept this situation as reality. Religion becomes formalistic and devoid of its true spiritual meaning. The secular community is alienated by the formalism and hypocrisy which it comes to identify with religion.

The freedom to worship, or not to worship, God according to one's own beliefs is a cornerstone of any democratic society. In a certain sense, freedom of religion is the most important of democracy's "freedoms" for it involves a most private area of life.

If the relationship between man and God is brought under state control, no facet of man's existence can be considered safe from governmental control. The politicalization of too many areas of life is compatible with totalitarian, not democratic systems of government.

In addition, a nation's faith in democratic principles and its own political system tend to become eroded when government becomes religion's handmaiden. Will the people continue to respect its leaders, or the political system that brought them to power, when the police are transferred from its vital function of protecting its citizens' lives and property to that of enforcing religious law? What can the average citizen think of a government that passes and enforces laws that the majority of the population consider to be onerous? In such cir-

cumstances, the noble ideals of majority rule and minority rights, the cornerstones of democratic theory, lose all meaning.

Finally, political power in a democratic society is a transient phenomenon. Today's majority becomes tomorrow's minority. When the ruling coalition is modest in its demands for new legislation, and takes the minority viewpoint into consideration when making decisions, then violent changes in direction of public policy usually are avoided when the opposition becomes the government party. But when caution is thrown to the wind, then severe backlash can be expected at the time a new ruling coalition is formed.

ISRAEL IS replete with the negative results of the linkage of religion and politics, and the situation has been exacerbated by recent events. Secular Jews are presented with a Judaism that seems more concerned with Shabbat travel than social justice, with bores rather than people. The gap between the secular and religious communities is widening and religion becoming less and less attractive as an option to a secular Jew.

The negative view of democracy that prevails in many quarters can only be enhanced by the seemingly unrestricted demands put forth by Agudat Israel. Worse still has been the effect of the other coalition partners' willingness to sacrifice every principle to ensure that the present government stays in power. The Yiddish speaking, non-

Zionist Sages who guide the destiny of Agudat Israel have become more visible, as their party's power has increased. This increased visibility, in conjunction with their continuing demands for new laws that favour the minority religious community at the expense of the majority secular one, will ultimately cause an anti-religious backlash among the Israeli electorate.

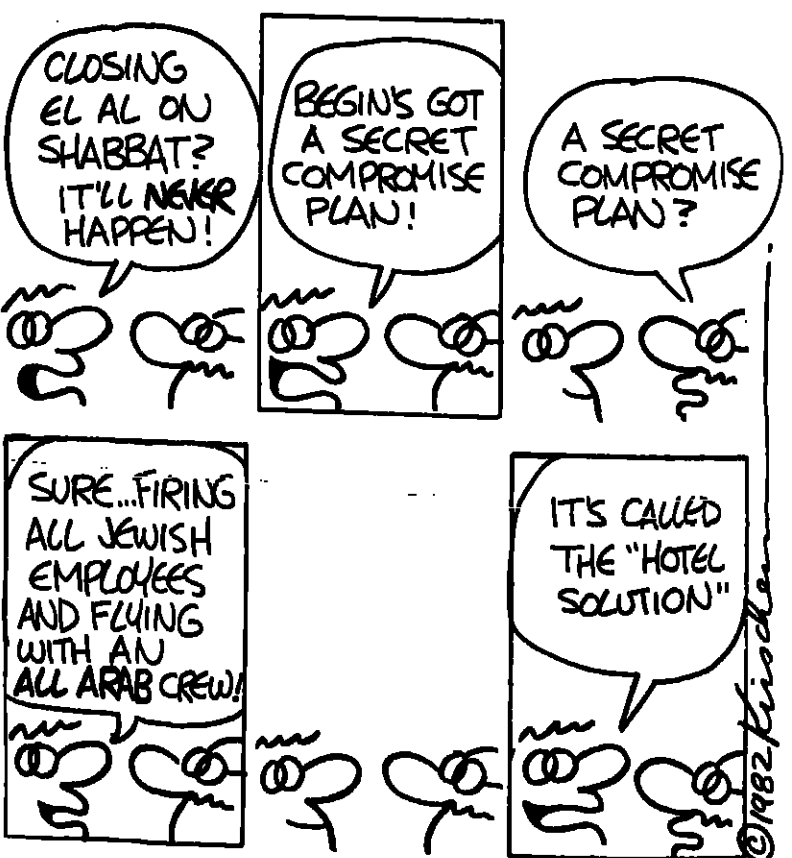
When this occurs, the pent-up anger that exists in the secular community against a minority that by and large doesn't share in the burden of the country's defenses nor contribute to its economic well-being, could be vented. All the special advantages that have accrued to the ultra-Orthodox community — the non-enforcement of the law calling for universal national or army service, funding for

yeshivas from public sources, etc. — could be jeopardized.

IDEALLY, politics and religion should be restricted to their own respective spheres in a democratic society. Government interference in religion, or religious interference with government should be viewed as illegitimate. Unfortunately, Israeli history dictates that this ideal cannot be reached here. But clerical influence on politics can be limited by the realization on the part of political leaders that the mixture of politics and religion is a potentially explosive one. One only has to look at the tragic situation in Iran to see the tragic results of clericalism triumphant.

The writer is a U.S.-trained political scientist.

Dry Bones



bylaws forbidding Sabbath operation by industry should immediately be lifted.

Mesheh is concerned about the projected \$35m. loss in El Al's revenue. Imagine how many billions of dollars could be earned if Israel's factories and shops would be open on Saturdays and holidays!

When you go to buy shoes and find that the pair you like is too small, you do not run to the surgeon and have your foot trimmed down to fit the shoe. You keep shopping around until you find a shoe that fits your foot. You cannot and dare not twist, eternal laws and traditions to adapt them to mutable economic situations.

Consider this: there are innumerable Jews and Jewish-owned firms that have prospered, and continue to do so while observing the Sabbath to the hilt. In fact, El Al used to honour the Sabbath in the first few years of its operations! And those few years happened to be the most glorious and prosperous in the Jewish airline's existence.

The writer is a member of The Jerusalem Post editorial staff.

Lies have long legs

Melvin J. Lasky, the editor of the British journal *Encounter*, finds something dubious and suspect about what some Israeli intellectuals call the 'Orwellian' or 'Kafkaesque' banning of books in the West Bank and Gaza.

THE DAY I left Cairo the story was already beginning to make waves. I spent the morning in the publishing house of *al-Ahram*, the influential Egyptian daily newspaper. The political nerves of every editor I spoke to were on edge in these last days of the promised Israeli evacuation of Sinai. Could the Israelis really be trusted, wouldn't the Begin government find a last-minute excuse? When the *International Herald Tribune* arrived, carrying Anthony Lewis' *New York Times* column, "When Eyes Turn Away in Israel," more fuel was fed to the fires of post-Sadat suspicion.

"You see!" one *al-Ahram* editor said to me, "here is Lewis in the *Times*, reporting that the Israelis are using these hopeful Camp David days to intensify cultural repression in the West Bank, and even banning two of our leading pro-Peace writers, both columnists on this paper — Towfik El Hakim and Naguib Mahfouz." The editors were, mostly, reasonable sort of fellows, and my shock matched their consternation.

In addition to the ban on "works by Egyptian writers who have been advocates of peace with Israel," Anthony Lewis listed a handful of other titles censored by the military government in the West Bank, including George Orwell's *1984*, Walter Laqueur's *The Soviet Union in the Middle East*, John Dryden's poetry, and Shakespeare's *Merchant of Venice*. In the index compiled by two of Lewis' named sources, Ory Bernstein and Amos Elon, the wild additions include Alan Moorehead's two histories, *The White Nile* and *The Blue Nile*, and the poems of Pablo Neruda.

That evening, at a Jerusalem literary party, I found myself in the midst of agitated conversation on the subject, although I knew little about Israeli politics (this was my first visit) and less about the West Bank. Still, I found the tale dubious and suspect. Censors are usually ignorant as well as foolish the world over, but could there be some Ashkenazi Colonel or Sephardic sergeant so mindless, so uneducated, so stupid as to put together such a list? "That's the way things are over here, these days," a left-wing writer said, "positively Orwellian!" And when I asked the well-known Jerusalem journalist, Amos Elon — on whose story in *Ha'aretz* Lewis had based his own *Times* column — how he could account for something so grotesque, he said, "It's all part of the preparations for a fascist regime! Soon we'll have it all, concentration camps as well as the burning of the books."

But even the Nazis, I asked, banned only the books of their enemies (Einstein, Freud, & Co.) — how could the Jews be so absurd as to ban the books of their friends? "Well," he replied, "maybe it was all a mistake, but that's the kind of Kafkaesque mystification that's going on." Was the mistake, then, corrected? "Well, maybe it was, but one mistake may be withdrawn, and then another more terrible one made. It's what they want to do — suppress and manipulate people..."

I decided then and there to postpone my first visit to a kibbutz and orange grove, and to try and get to the bottom of a story (originated by Bernstein, broken by Elon, and spread around the world by Lewis), which seemed to be casting shadows over Camp David and presaging dark days over the Jordan.

The Western press, in its rage for ideological sensations, has been tending to slip badly, rushing into print before it authenticates, and eager to believe a tale which could be true, and might be true, but with scandalizing frequency turns out to be a case of mistaken identity, mixed with a little hoax, exaggeration, or sheer fantasy.

And how true was this particular story of Israeli brain-washing? Had all the facts been checked and double-checked? What was the nature of the documentation, and who had actually seen what authentic lists and official bibliographies? The problem — in part, journalistic ethics; in part, intellectual integrity — left me no peace, and I phoned an acquaintance at midnight. He insisted that his officials at the Ministry of Information would have categorically denied it, had they been asked, which they hadn't. Well, they would, wouldn't they?

Still, part of the story should have been the absolute official denial (and perhaps how they were lying through their teeth). Why hadn't anybody bothered to check out the other half of the story? "Because it is a complete phoney," the Israeli spokesman said, "and there's no stopping those chaps from writing what they want so much to believe. I'll send you the documents. Behind it all lies a small bureaucratic mistake, an idiotic mixing up of papers by a secretary in an office five years ago, and it was corrected by official order shortly thereafter. What can one do? Things like that sometimes happen, even if they shouldn't. The page which listed certain titles which were to be approved for import licences into the West Bank was erroneously stapled together with the list of banned books — exclusively PLO propaganda, or old-time Jordan school-textbooks with anti-Semitic biases. We thought we had caught up with the error in 1977. But it is still being peddled."

The next day I called Menahem Milson, the professor of Arabic studies at the Hebrew University, and newly appointed to be in charge of the Civilian Administration, replacing the Military Government, of the West Bank's occupied territories.

"I am afraid," he said, "it is not an error but a malady. The so-called 'investigative reporters' of the crusading press; in Israel and in the West, are in the grip of a pattern of prejudices, and all roads lead to that syndrome. If they look at our water problems, then we are stealing the Arab wells. If they look at our hospitals, then we are letting Arab babies die while saving ours in Hadassah respirators. This was the outrageous argument of the recent ABC '20/20' TV documentary, and I frankly don't know how to deal with this without spending all my time doing public relations."

I asked him about the banned books, from Shakespeare to Orwell. "The journalists must think we are some kind of new breed of sub-

intelligent monsters. There is not a word of truth in the charges of "Orwellian" censorship. Not a single book on that reported list — and, also, the false reports have now been widely reprinted — has been censored, and every one of them is available to book-buyers and to each of the four universities (there were none before) which have grown up under Israeli encouragement. That *Merchant of Venice* is not the Bard's play, but a vicious pamphlet making pure anti-Semitic propaganda out of the plot. That's the title that's banned, along with a host of other such rabid vapourings... But lies have long legs. How can we ever catch up with them once they start racing around the world?"

WHY THEN, I asked finally, was the "progressive" press so hostile? My own impression, after a week of driving around "the territories" (the Israeli-occupied ex-Jordan West Bank), was that it must be just about the mildest regime in the modern history of military government. I knew two such recent regimes personally, the U.S. occupation of post-Tojo Japan and the Allied military government in post-Hitler Germany; and both, although fairly enlightened, were far more rigorous in their political supervision and cultural control. Why have you suddenly become the "ugly Israelis"?

"I suspect," Professor Milson concluded, "that it is a late expression of radical chic ideology. But the ugliness is in the eye of the beholder. Liberal-left prejudices dictate that we must be perceived as more reactionary than Reagan, nastier than Nixon, and nothing for a good progressive to be proud of or pro-Semitic about. Broken is a chain of nice-minded sympathy and support which ran from Ben-Gurion to Golda Meir, all good guys' worth feeling strong and *shapatico* about. Yet we still remain the only real liberal democracy in the Middle East, and still eager to come to terms with our neighbours."

"Nevertheless, we are confronted to our dismay with a West wall of hostility, abuse, and worse. Anthony Lewis puts it poetically by quoting the supposedly censored lines of John Dryden:

"And when the chosen people grew more strong. The righteous cause became the wrong."

How wrong? Merely a mistaken policy, or an erratic tactic? That's discussable. No, as wrong as Hitler — as Auschwitz — as the *Gestapo*! That's intolerable. Am I supposed to be pleased that the *Los Angeles Times* today makes the nice distinction that "By the standards of Nazi Germany's *Gestapo*, Israeli occupation tactics are enlightened." Only this afternoon one of your famous American TV correspondents came in for an interview, and when he put his question about what I thought of being stamped as "the Heydrich of the Israeli occupation," it was just too much."

How did you reply to the question? "I didn't. I told him the interview was over. He wanted to rephrase the question. I refused. I told him to pack up his TV camera and leave. Which he promptly did."

Every day's a holiday!

Well, nearly every day is a holiday in Israel. As home for more than fifty ethnic and religious groups, Israel is the site of a celebration on almost every day of the year.

Often, the same day is a holiday for more than one community. Each day of feast, fast, prayer or remembrance is recorded and explained in the *All-Faith Book of Feasts in the Holy Land*, 1982, by Israel Lippel.

More than 400 holidays of 1982 are listed chronologically, with a brief description of their significance and manner of celebration in the community observing the day.

This carefully compiled listing is invaluable to tourists, tour guides, scholars, folklorists, community workers and journalists. Most of the holidays listed are observed around the world.

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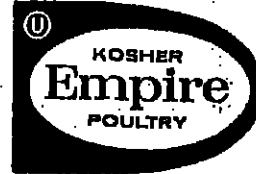


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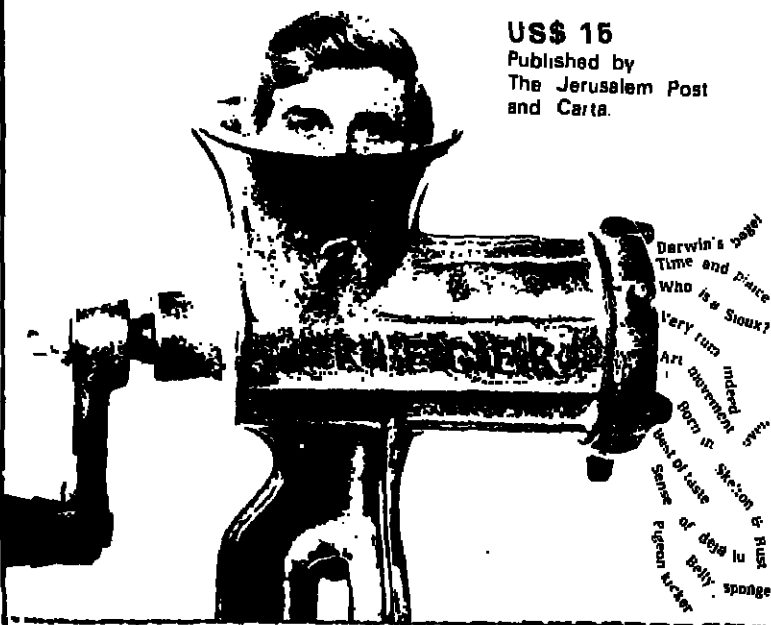


With Prejudice

The Best of Berlyne

Alex Berlyne's mind is either a fount of erudition or a rubbish dump, depending on your point of view. In the ten years "With Prejudice" has been appearing in The Jerusalem Post, the column has dealt with such abstruse topics as Anal (a language spoken in Burma and Manipur), the way Shakespeare's puns crop up in comic postcards four centuries later, and the age-old question of "Who is a Sioux?" With tongue planted firmly in cheek, Berlyne lovingly assails nearly every institution hallowed by man.

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Straining relations

Declaring Jewish settlements non-negotiable would further divide Israel writes Post Defence Correspondent Hirsh Goodman.

THE SINAI nightmare is over. The wounds have yet to heal and we should all be taking a long, hard look at what happened.

This should have been a time for reflection. It is a time to re-assess the psychological implications of the turmoil of the past few weeks on ourselves as a nation, and the strategic implications on Israel's future relations with Egypt and the U.S.

Instead, we were told that Prime Minister Menachem Begin would inform the Knesset during its opening session last week that the government has decided that in no circumstances will Israel ever again negotiate the uprooting of settlements. He asked the Labour opposition to support him on this when the House votes, making the non-negotiability of Jewish settlement immune to political change unless the decision were reversed by another vote by the plenum. In other words, Mr. Begin intended to inform the Knesset and the world that there can be no negotiation on the future of the Gaza Strip, Judea and Samaria. Israeli settlements in the territories will therefore be a precondition for any future peace talks, which precludes such talks from the outset.

In examining the ramifications of this impetuous step — a step totally devoid of the deep reflection one could have expected — internal political considerations should be set aside.

It means that Israel has made a decision to incorporate into its existing population 1.2 million Palestinians who do not want Israeli citizenship. It poses a new dilemma for Israel's 600,000 Arabs. It means a unilateral implementation of the Begin government's understanding of the autonomy accords, with all the strain this will place on Israel's relations with the U.S. and Egypt.

It is a move which will divide this already divided nation even more deeply, leaving those who fought the IDF at Yamit ecstatic and pos-

sibly sparking the silent majority into protest.

WHAT IS THERE to be gained from such a decision? Israel already has control over Judea, Samaria and Gaza. International and internal opposition has not stymied the government's settlement programmes there, not even during the delicate Camp David process. There are no negotiating partners on the horizon right now, other than those who are party to the autonomy talks. Why the preconditions? Why not wait and see what we are talking about before we reject what is being offered us? Israel will always retain the right of refusal if that is what the majority of the people desire. Why open this Pandora's box?

Could the National Religious Party's need to prevent its rank and file bolting to some new ultra-nationalist body built on the ashes and emotions of Yamit, be more important to the government than the national good? For no national good (as distinct from nationalistic good) can come from such a move.

Just last week we heard from U.S. Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger himself that America was considering renewing the bilateral strategic agreement with Israel, which was suspended when Israel annexed the Golan Heights. This should have been good news for a government which had presented that agreement to the public as a huge success. Surely it is realistic to expect that the Americans might have second thoughts about renewing it if Israel goes ahead and prohibits any negotiation over settlement.

It is possible to live with American ire, because we have a need of each other; and it is certainly possible to live without the strategic agreement in its present form. But can Israel live with the realization that by precluding unfettered negotiation, the government is signing a warrant for perennial conflict?

It is going to force choices we could do without on the people of this land. Can we live with a people within a people deprived of the same rights that we enjoy? Could we still talk of democracy?

CONFLICT and strife must breed war, and the flow of weapons into this region encourages that process. Because of the disparity in price to Israel and to the Arabs (our valuation of human life, and our greater economic vulnerability), the major task of the Israel Defence Forces is not to win a war, but to prevent one. The IDF, the nation, and our ties with the West must be perceived by the Arabs to be strong enough to hold a prospect of such unendurable cost to them should they embark on another war with this country that they will not dare to do so.

The government's decision will undermine all three elements of Israel's deterrent posture: it will strain the political and ideological cohesiveness of the IDF; it will divide the nation as deeply, if not more deeply than on the eve of the Camp David accords (when the Peace Now movement came to the fore); and it will certainly impair Israel's relations with the West. It will do all this and much more with no clear benefit in sight.

It comes at a time when the last month's explosive tension on the West Bank has just begun to relax; and it undermines the function and logic of Defence Minister Sharon's vaunted village leagues.

It comes at a time when Israel and the PLO have just adjusted the delicate balance in Lebanon, forcing the PLO to reassess its position.

These comments do not stem from defeatism or fear. They are the result of the mental anguish of trying to understand the government's decision-making process. Apart from pacifying Rabbi Haim Druckman (not win him over, for only the Tzviya Party could do that) what will be achieved? We know what will be lost.

state-sponsored media fanned it. Guilt was branded onto the foreheads of people who not too long ago had answered the country's call to come to the region as pioneers.

AS FOR the anti-withdrawal people, they gave voice to their emotions. Their motives, especially their devotion to an idea, won the sympathy even of people who did not agree with them. Then the hatred was directed at the homes, the holocausts, the plantations and the fields. The dynamic of hatred put bulldozers to work, and they, in a mighty show of destruction, knocked down houses, trees, and flourishing farms.

We left behind us not scorched earth and sand. In the short range, the destroyers satisfied an urge for revenge against a problem that had caused them unease, one they had not managed to solve in the last four years. In the long range, from a historical perspective, a crime has been perpetrated.

The writer was a Yamit settler and The Jerusalem Post correspondent in the area.

Sorrow of Yamit

By MOTTI BEN-YANAI

find and evacuate them. Actually, Hatzar Adar was the first settlement to be cleared, and its people, clinging to the dunes, were the last of the region's settlers to be evacuated, along with those of Yamit.

To anyone who watched developments in the Yamit region since the Camp David Accords, it must be clear that there is no foundation to the excuses for the destruction of Yamit and the area surrounding it. They are only a feeble and unsatisfactory attempt to conceal the dynamic of destruction that operated in the region. The result was discomfort, annoyance and finally hatred.

The hatred was focused on the residents of the region, and the

MONDAY, MAY 3, 1982

El Al's reprieve

TRANSPORTATION Minister Haim Corfu was "very satisfied" with the cabinet's decision about El Al yesterday. The decision was to stop all El Al service on Saturdays and holidays, "as a matter of principle," and to give a cabinet committee three months to work out a programme of action to implement the ordered stoppage. Mr. Corfu is himself a member of the committee.

The source of Mr. Corfu's satisfaction was not fully articulated. Last week the transportation minister expressed shock over the Rubin Committee's estimates of the losses the national carrier would sustain if it were prevented from competing for clientele on Saturdays and holidays. These would come to \$50-70m., on top of the \$40m. which, as was revealed yesterday, the company had suffered in operational losses last year.

This would make a travesty of El Al's heroic effort over the past two years to pull itself up by its own bootstraps from the financial morass into which it had gotten itself.

Mr. Corfu was not the only cabinet minister of this stripe. Tourism Minister Avraham Shari' had also voiced strenuous opposition to any stoppage, on the grounds that it would gravely harm the tourism industry. And he, too, is a member of the cabinet committee. The chairman of the committee is Deputy Premier — and agriculture minister — Simha Ehrlich, who was the harshest in his criticism of the stoppage idea in the cabinet yesterday. In the face of Mr. Begin's attempt to portray the move as the payment of obeisance to the hallowed religious values of Judaism, Mr. Ehrlich made it abundantly clear that it was nothing but the payment of a coalition debt to Agudat Yisrael.

The logic of the El Al stoppage, he insisted, would sooner or later require that all electricity be switched off and all telephone service be suspended on Saturdays and holidays.

Thus behind the statement of principle it would appear that the purpose of the economic ministers in joining the committee was to work during the coming three months from within to demonstrate how destructive and unworkable the stoppage decision is, and how it should be quietly shelved. Perhaps this is what El Al workers learned yesterday, which might explain their relatively mild response to the ordered stoppage.

MONDAY, MAY 3, 1982

Dogmas and dilemmas

ONCE UPON a time there was what seemed like a firm national consensus in favour of keeping the former settlements in the Yamit region under Israeli sovereignty. The overwhelming majority of the Knesset even passed a resolution fervently upholding the idea. That was the formal reason for Premier Menachem Begin's refusal to sign the settlements away at Camp David, and for his insistence on a fresh Knesset vote allowing them to be removed in return for peace with Egypt.

The dilemma was right there: it was an issue of the settlements or the peace, as Mr. Begin himself — although he now tries to duck the responsibility — made it crystal clear. Inevitably, the peace won out.

Now Mr. Begin would like the country (and the outside world as well) to believe that it won't happen again, that Sinai is on no account a model for Judea, Samaria, Gaza and the Golan. Jewish settlements in the territories under Israel's rule will never again be dismantled, not even for the fullest measure of peace, and no matter where they might be situated. In pledging his government to the retention of all settlements already set up beyond the (supposedly non-existent) Green Line, and all those that would be set up in the future, Mr. Begin has sought to make concrete the claim of permanent Israeli sovereignty over the areas.

The original plan was to have a large majority of the Knesset underwrite this governmental policy by means of another resolution, on the Sinai pattern. But this, at least, has now been prevented by the Labour Party's refusal to go along. As the party's chairman, Shimon Peres, has put it, "We oppose creating Jewish settlements in densely populated Arab areas and will not agree to give the government carte blanche to change the present map so as to convert Israel into a bi-national state."

Yesterday, therefore, the cabinet decided not to submit the measure to the Knesset. Only the NRP's Ze'evulun Hammer, and Ariel Sharon, the defence minister, favoured submitting it to parliament. Had their advice been followed, it would have led to a demonstration of a national rift, instead of a national consensus.

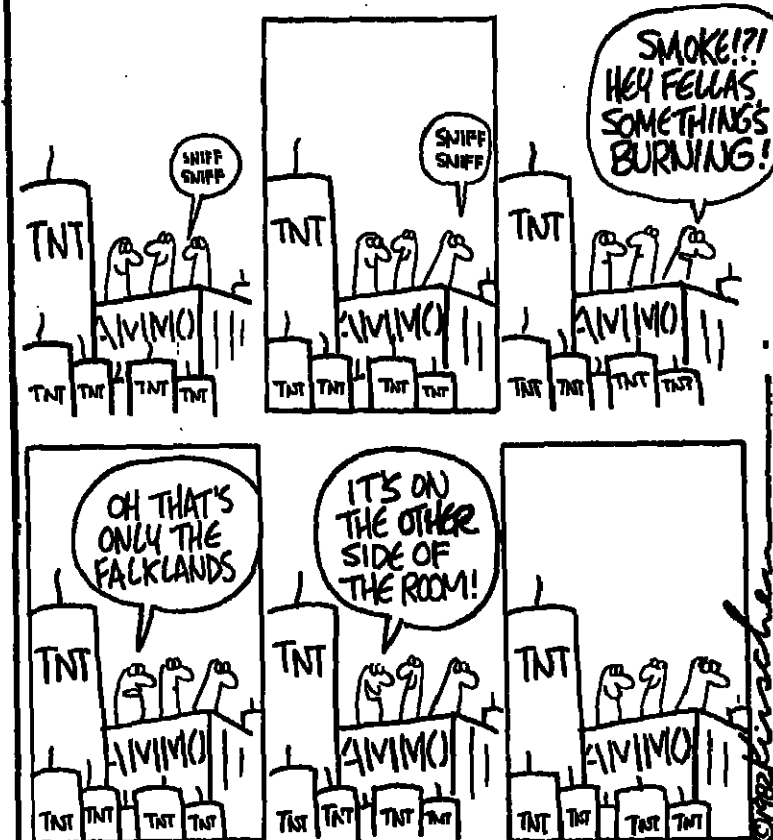
The government, for its part, remains free to adhere to its stand against the removal of Jewish settlements, present or future, north or south, and no matter what. This, of course, amounts to an advance notice that territorial compromise would be rejected as the basis for peace even if the Arab neighbours were willing to discuss it. In the same way that Israeli withdrawal to the post-War of Liberation frontiers is now a Jordanian and a Syrian precondition, this is an Israeli precondition: no further withdrawal from the post-Six Day War lines.

Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir, for once playing the diplomat, denied this on Friday. He said the government's stand "is not a precondition, it is our position." But he conceded that it would be best for any future partner to negotiations not to expect any change in it. In other words, it is a precondition.

Whether it could be permanently sustained is another matter. The history of its own exercise of power should by now have taught the government coalition that even the most dearly held nationalist dogma, if unsupported by Israel's genuine security interests, may have to give way to sheer necessity.

Published weekly: May 9-15, 1982

Dry Bones



TUESDAY, MAY 4, 1982

Arms and politics

INURED as they are to disputes over territory, Israelis have tended to view the Falklands conflict through the prism of the national experience.

Since it is Argentina that is taken to be the aggressor in the South Atlantic, this country has largely identified itself with the defender of the territorial status quo, Great Britain. Starting from this premise, Premier Begin has suggested that, considering its position on the Falklands, Britain should be more understanding towards Israel than it is.

Some critics at home have questioned the logic of this argument, claiming that Mr. Begin's own territorial policy puts Israel in the same league with Argentina rather than with Britain. But in truth any such attempt at analogizing is spurious, for the issues are vastly different.

Argentina was the aggressor while Great Britain was the victim, and Argentina's regime is a brutal — some would say, a crypto-fascist — dictatorship, while Britain's is a democracy. The decision whom to support in the dispute thus presented little difficulty. But the shock was for this very reason all the greater when the British Foreign Office, after calling the Israeli ambassador in, last Tuesday, openly protested what it described as Israeli arms assistance to Argentina.

Israel's Foreign Ministry charged in reply that the British statements were "likely to enhance utterly unfounded rumours regarding Israel's position in the British-Argentinian dispute and to distort her actual policy completely." The unfounded rumours had to do with an allegedly impending sale of Israeli warplanes and helicopters to Argentina.

The shock to Israelis stemmed at least in part from their lack of awareness of the role this country has played in the arming of Argentina. That role, to be sure, has been strictly marginal. During the past decade sales by Israel have accounted for less than one tenth of the value of the arms purchased by Argentina from abroad. Argentina's major arms providers have been the British themselves, followed by the Germans, the Americans and the French: the country's arms inventory, as one British writer has put it, "is a compendium of the arsenal of the Free World."

The British complaint, however, referred not to the long-standing weapons relationship between Israel and Argentina, but rather to current supplies which, according to the Foreign Office, have been unaffected by the Argentinian aggression. That some Israeli arms might in fact now, or shortly, be heading toward Argentina was indirectly confirmed by the Foreign Ministry's own assertion that it was Israel's policy to honour all its arms contracts with all countries, if such contracts existed.

There could indeed be no other policy for a small and still beleaguered country such as Israel, whose entire arms export programme is basically designed not to influence foreign regimes or to provide jobs at home but to support a vital native arms industry, which helps relieve Israel of dependence on outside arms sources.

Whether sufficient thought was given to choosing markets for Israel's spare weaponry in the first place, is another matter. The hard-nosed argument, of course, is that a country in Israel's situation cannot afford to be too choosy. But at times it has seemed no consideration except the strictly economic was at all taken into account. This has boomeranged against Israel before, and it could again. Not least in undercutting Israel's case for due discrimination by the western powers in directing their arms to the Middle East.

Aridor retreat

NEGOTIATIONS for new wage contracts always make for tense labour relations, and the present round is no exception to the rule. As always, the storm centre is now in the public sector — but with the difference, this time, that it is not powerful works committees that stir up unrest but, apparently, the Treasury.

Finance Minister Yoram Aridor also appears to be bent upon dictating to the private sector and the Histadrut.

The immediate issue is the Treasury's refusal to go on paying the so-called "erosion supplement" of IS425 a month in the public sector, which is the counterpart of an agreed 5 per cent wage increase — in addition to the cost-of-living allowance — in the private sector. The Treasury says, first, that the agreement to pay this increment was limited to the January-March period so that the new wage package from April on must be negotiated from the *ex ante* base. Secondly, the Treasury argues that it makes no sense to talk of wage erosion when real wages went up nearly 10 per cent in 1981.

Both arguments sound plausible at first hearing. However, the plausibility becomes thin when one looks a little closer at the facts.

The 5 per cent wage increment in the private sector, and the parallel flat IS425 a month in the public sector, were part of the existing wage agreements. They were meant as additional compensation for inflation if the C-o-L allowance failed to maintain real wages.

In the first quarter of the year, with inflation amounting to 20.3 per cent, this clearly happened. Even with the extra increment, the 16.6 per cent cost-of-living allowance for April — paid in May — would only bring up real wages to their level at the end of 1981.

The workers' real gain in 1981 was the inevitable result of the time lag with which allowances are paid. When inflation accelerates — as it did almost continuously for eight years until 1981, and as is happening again now — real wages always fall behind.

Mr. Aridor's election-induced "proper economics" in 1981 reversed that process. By shelling out some freshly printed IS40b. on subsidies and reduced indirect taxes, he brought inflation down. Workers therefore got cost-of-living allowances based on past, and higher, inflation rates. For the first time in eight years, they gained in real terms from the cost-of-living agreement. The losses and the gains from this mechanism are always permanent.

The finance minister's advisors have apparently made him wake up, belatedly, to the realities of the aftermath of last year's election campaign. He therefore now wants wage earners to cough up some of the gifts he showered upon them last year.

Politically, Mr. Aridor is as astute as ever. He still has only an interim budget. In a Knesset split evenly between coalition and opposition he will have a hard time getting the 1982 budget approved. No wonder, therefore, that Mr. Aridor tries to backtrack on his "proper economics" and to make a firm stand on wages.

READERS' LETTERS

THE RETURN OF YAMIT

To the Editor of *The Jerusalem Post*. Sir, — Lea Abramowitz's article of April 25, "I feel like an uprooted tree," depicts the Anti-Withdrawal squatters as upstanding and law-abiding citizens. In fact, theirs was an act of open defiance of law and the rule of law.

I have been told that their actions constituted a case of civil disobedience, much like the now famous Montgomery, Ala. bus boycott of 1955, led by the late Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, in the United States. It was nothing of the sort. At Yamit, a national government policy, arrived at by due process of democratic procedures, was willfully and even violently opposed by a small segment of the population. They acted in the full knowledge that their actions called for the violation of an international agreement and a peace treaty, and would have destroyed any chance for future negotiations and would undoubtedly have placed the State of Israel's very existence in jeopardy.

Most people (including this writer) feel that giving back Yamit to Egypt was unwise or even a mistake. The price for peace, however, is always high and the Begin government agreed, for the sake of a first step on the road to a full and comprehensive peace with our neighbours, that the return of all Sinai was not too high a price.

THE ARLOSOROFF AFFAIR

To the Editor of *The Jerusalem Post*. Sir, — In your issue of March 22, you report that the son of Haim Arlosoroff stated that Bechor Shitreet, a year before his death, told him that Abraham Stavsky was guilty of the murder of his father. This is incredible unless there were two Bechor Shitreet's, for the Bechor Shitreet who was a very good friend of mine and with whom I studied law in 1925 told me on more than one occasion before his death that the three accused persons had no part in the murder. He said that he agreed with Yehuda Arazi, who was involved as a police officer in the investigation of the murder and who declared in a public address to the Bnei Brith that all three of them were innocent.

Shaul Arlosoroff is apparently un-

STAVSKY WITNESS

To the Editor of *The Jerusalem Post*. Sir, — On opening *The Post* of March 15, I noticed the headline about the cabinet reopening the 1933 Arlosoroff murder case. My younger sister and I myself were the main witnesses for Stavsky during his trial.

Stavsky was having his dinner on that Friday night at my mother's restaurant in Jaffa Road, opposite

Three years ago, most members of the Knesset and most people felt it certainly was worth the risk. No matter how we may feel today about the matter, the time to demonstrate and oppose the return of Sinai was three years ago, not now.

Those who willfully and openly oppose the execution of government agreements and policy are inciting to rebellion and as such, their behaviour is nothing less than treason. However, the Montgomery case was a show of non-violent opposition to an unfair, biased, local ordinance in order to obtain redress of civil and human rights.

The fact that the Begin government permitted the squatters to move down to Yamit and later treated them in the most humane and gentle manner does not legitimize their behaviour, but only demonstrates to the whole world the high value we Jews place on human life and human rights. Fortunately, the Begin government did not capitulate.

It was painful for us to witness the return of Yamit to Egypt; it was even more painful for us to watch the forced evacuation of fellow Jews by Jewish boys and girls in the IDF. Grown men and women, living in a democracy ought to know the difference between civil disobedience and outright rebellion.

DAVID FROELICH

Rehovot.

JUSTICE COHN'S STATEMENT

To the Editor of *The Jerusalem Post*. Sir, — The Committee of Concerned Citizens condemns the hysterical and undignified response by the Government to the recent criticisms by ex-Chief Justice, Dr. Haim Cohn, regarding the method of implementation of Israeli law in the Golan Heights.

In the interests of democracy, the CCC demands that an inquiry be held into the allegations made by Dr. Cohn and that the Government respond in a responsible manner.

IRENE MORLEY,
Assistant Director,

Tel Aviv.

Sir, — What shocked me was not so much what Justice Cohn chose to say publicly — we've been targets of violent criticism and wholesale condemnation before — but who said it. We had a right to expect a more balanced and better informed "judgment" from Justice Cohn.

Before pronouncing his damning verdict, Justice Cohn and his Association for Civil Rights should have considered the situation of those Golan Druse who rightly look to Israeli authorities to protect them from intimidation and violence on the part of the extremists in their midst. That silent and helpless majority expects us to enforce obedience to the law and stop wavering and dithering at this late date.

PNINA GOLDNER

Kiryat Haim.

Sir, — Somehow, the words of former Chief Justice Cohn about the Golan Druse, which I respect and honour, saddened me from every point of view. But they also confirmed and strengthened my pride in belonging to the Jewish People.

Freedom of speech in Israel can indeed serve as an example to the world.

Jerusalem. SHOSHANA HALEVY

BBC REPORTING

To the Editor of *The Jerusalem Post*. Sir, — In his letter published on April 22, Professor R. Kenneth correctly points out the factual error in a recent news despatch by me in which I wrongly referred to the 1969 arsonist of the Akas Mosque as an Australian Jew instead of an Australian Christian. This was not intended as an "outright lie" as Professor Kenneth alleges, nor did it amount to deliberate distortion as the Professor implies.

I would also reject in the strongest terms his charge that the BBC "has been past master at distorting the news about Israel." The BBC's record of fair and impartial news reporting from all over the world is second to none.

GRAHAM LEACH,
BBC Middle East Correspondent
Jerusalem.

SMOKING ON BUS

To the Editor of *The Jerusalem Post*. Sir, I was most impressed with the article written by Rabbi Rabinowitz in your edition of April 4. In it, he describes how he actually got both the driver of an Egged bus, and the company itself to apologize for the fact that the driver was smoking while driving his bus.

To honour Rabbi Rabinowitz and his campaign to bring about obedience to the regulations which forbid smoking on buses, I enclose herewith a check of \$1500 in favour of Akim Fund for handicapped children.

Jerusalem. HARRIS D. GULKO

THE IDF SPOKESMAN'S CREDIBILITY

To the Editor of *The Jerusalem Post*. Sir, — David Shaked questioned the credibility of the IDF Spokesman document concerning Messrs. Karim Khalaf and Basam Shak'a (Letters April 19). Mr. Shaked pointed to the insignificant errors of nomenclature (errors which he himself termed "silly") and, on the basis of these, attempted to deduce that the entire 11-page document which gives specific references to places and dates is invalid. Mr. Shaked moreover readily admitted that he did not "have the facilities" to check the charges or quotations, yet insinuated that they were incorrect, basing his assumption on his personal acquaintance with the deposed Mayor of Ramallah (an admission which should shed light on his own objectivity).

Mr. Shaked contends that Khalaf was twice implicated as a prime accomplice in court trials which convicted other suspects must be untrue since "if that were true, he would long ago have been jailed or expelled." Mr. Shaked finally accuses the IDF Spokesman of attempting to play on the "short memories" of the public by attributing to Shak'a words said in a conversation with former Territories Coordinator Danny Matt (1979), which Mr. Shaked claims had never been said, a fact he contends is substantiated by the publication of the "leaked transcript of the controversial conversation" in *Ha'aretz*.

After careful examination of the original document (it appears that Mr. Shaked is quoting from a summary of a translation), the only factual errors which he was able to find were the two minor errors on nomenclature which Mr. Shaked mentioned, namely: the substitution of the Hawatmeh organization's former name, the Popular Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, for its present appellation, Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine. The second error which we committed and acknowledged was the inadvertent substitution of Palestine Liberation Front for "Palestine National Front. Though Mr. Shaked claims that the PNF is not associated with the PLO, we should like to cite the

FLPL Bulletin, March 1982, No. 60, p. 10: "The PNF has adopted a progressive programme, positioning itself as the primary arm of the PLO in the occupied territories and declaring its commitment to the National Covenant and the organizational and political programmes of the 14th PNC." (Photocopy of the original enclosed.)

Though we cannot for want of space send Mr. Shaked the originals of every single quotation which we have employed, we are enclosing photocopies of the original *Al-Hurriyya* quote (September 1980) whose authenticity he doubted; the *Al-Hadaf* quotation September 15, 1980; "The return of Jerusalem, Ramallah, Nablus, Bethlehem and Hebron necessitates the return of Jaffa, Haifa and Umm el-Fahm. We request of our brethren that they work together with us for the liberation of Palestine from the river (Jordan) to the (Mediterranean sea), as well as the quotation from *Die Presse* (July 2, 1980): "The only solution is war ... in a number of years we shall be the victors and Israel shall no longer exist".

We cannot verify what Khalaf told Mr. Shaked in private conversations, but the records of Khalaf's views which we presented are public domain. While it is correct that Khalaf was twice implicated in the trials of convicted criminals, he was not pursued in justice due to the discretion of the Israel Administration. We are sure that, had he been so pursued, expelled or imprisoned, Mr. Shaked would have been even more critical of the Israeli Administration than he is of the IDF Spokesman.

As for Mr. Shak'a's words to the former Territories Coordinator, the quotation which the Spokesman utilized was, in fact, that of the authorities transcript of the conversation as published in *Ha'aretz* and *Yediot Aharanot*: "As long as the conquest continues, you can expect many more actions of this kind (Coastal Road Massacre) etc." We are enclosing photocopies. If these words even in their expurgated state seemed too vitriolic for Mr. Shaked to feel comfortable with, that is not our fault.

YEHUDA WEINRAUB,
Ph.D., Major, IDF
Hakiryat IDF Spokesman's Office

CONVERSATION WITH LASKY

To the Editor of *The Jerusalem Post*. Sir, — It is not for me to comment on Mr. Melvin J. Lasky's conclusions in his recent article in *The Jerusalem Post* reprinted from the *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung* of 15.4.82 — others will be able to do this much better — but his report of a conversation with me during his stay in Jerusalem last March is freely invented.

During a brief chat with him at a crowded cocktail party, he asked me about an article I had just published in *Ha'aretz* on books banned in the West Bank. I gave him the gist of that article saying that arbitrary rule and disorderly administration of the law often come together. But I never spoke of "preparations for a fascist regime" in Israel, nor did I say we would soon have concentration camps and book burning here.

I don't know why Lasky puts such extravagant statements into my mouth, which, if they reflected my thinking, I would not have first voiced them at a cocktail party to a near stranger and a contributor to a German newspaper to boot.

AMOS ELON

Jerusalem.

CONSULTATIONS IN ISLAM

To the Editor of *The Jerusalem Post*. Sir, — According to your AP report of March 30, "Saudi to get first taste of 'Islamic democracy' soon," *Shura* was "first championed by the late Saudi King Faisal" in 1960.

As a matter of fact, there is nothing "new" in *Shura*. Caliph Umar, on his deathbed in 644, appointed the first *Shura* in Islam. He conveyed to its six members, the

Jerusalem. GIDEON WEIGERT

READERS' LETTER

LOVE OF ISRAEL

To the Editor of *The Jerusalem Post*. Sir, — On March 29, you published a letter from two young women from South Africa, C. Blumberg and S. Shuman, in which they commented adversely on a particular TV broadcast. The details are irrelevant at present.

This has led to a further letter on April 6 by one R. David Kool which makes an uncalled-for attack on the writers and reveals ignorance of the true facts.

I do not know Ms. Shuman, but I have the honour and privilege of Cicely Blumberg's friendship; she is a person of high principle and outstanding human qualities. After several years of public service in South Africa, she came on aliya and rendered services to the Tel Hashomer and Beilinson hospitals of the highest quality for a long period.

That she then returned to South Africa to look after an aging and recently widowed mother does not justify the accusation of having "abandoned" Israel. I can testify personally from recent association with her that her love and devotion to Israel and its people is unabated.

JUDGE JOSEPH HERBSTEN
Kiryat Ono.

GENERATION WITHOUT MEMORY

To the Editor of *The Jerusalem Post*. Sir, — After reading Yaakov Reuei's article, "Generation without memory" (April 16), which exposes the "collective lack of memory" among the younger generation in Germany, I could not help but reflect about this same problem in Israel.

There are two places in the world where a vivid memory of Nazi genocide should persist — Germany and Israel. We know about the fading memory in Germany; much

has been said and written about it, even by prominent German personalities.

But what about Israel? Can we honestly claim that our younger generation, or at least a very considerable section of it, has a better memory? Should we not devote more genuine efforts to ensure that, at least in the Jewish State, the memory of the greatest tragedy in our history will persist?

MOSHE BAR ILAN

Tel Aviv.

DUBIOUS STAND

To the Editor of *The Jerusalem Post*. Sir, — All concerned citizens in Israel must have been shocked to hear Chaim Herzog, MK on the radio stating that he should vote in favour of the "Who's a Jew" amendment and justifying this vote by personal convictions based on family tradition.

Mr. Herzog was elected to the Knesset on the list of the Labour Party which is against religious coercion. He is also the founder and president of the Concerned Citizens Committee, an organization purporting to fight various ills in our

RELIGIOUS PLURALISM

To the Editor of *The Jerusalem Post*. Sir, — I would like to assure Ms. Kohansky (Letters) — there is no contradiction between the personal opinion held by Mr. Chaim Herzog on the issue of religious pluralism and the aims and objectives of the Committee of Concerned Citizens.

Because of the diverse opinions and backgrounds of our members, CCC has not adopted a formal posi-

society, among them religious coercion. To hear him supporting a bill which is the most blatant assault yet of Orthodoxy on religious freedom here and abroad is indeed shocking.

With all due respect for Mr. Herzog's religious convictions and filial piety, I feel this is his private matter. When personal feelings clash with the stands of an organization which a person represents, he ought either to sacrifice those feelings or resign his position.

RALLY KING KOHANSKY

Tel Aviv.

KNITTED SKULL-CAPS

To the Editor of *The Jerusalem Post*. Sir, — Ephraim Kishon once wrote a tribute to the generations of the *kipot serugot* (knitted skull-caps). He found them to be the choice of Israeli youth in moral behaviour, military service, devotion to people and country.

Since that article, they have stood out as activists in settlements, Gush Emunim, Yamit, against the withdrawal from Sinai, etc.

I submit another area of consideration. On Martyrs' and Heroes' Remembrance Day, I attended a symposium on the Holocaust at the Israel National Academy of Science in Jerusalem. Several hundred people crowded the chamber with standing room only. It was not a religious event, yet I noticed only

one young man in the entire audience without a skull-cap — the man in charge of the sound amplifiers.

Apparently the knitted skull-cap has more dimensions — critical dimensions — than we imagine. It represents not only Tora study, religious living, nationalist devotion, but the very identification with Jewish history.

The adult generation that seems to feel that young people, even in Israel, are moving away from Jewish identity would do well to consider the urgency of the knitted skull-cap. Maybe it strikes the essence of Jewish being.

RABBI SIMON A. DOLGIN
Jerusalem.

THE POST IN CAIRO

To the Editor of *The Jerusalem Post*. Sir, — As a veteran reader of *The Jerusalem Post* I feel obliged to reply to Mr. Oestermann's letter of April 23.

I was in Egypt with an organized tour in the latter half of March, starting and ending with Cairo — a two-day stay each time. I found *The*

Jerusalem Post every day, in the Hilton Hotel as well as in Shepheard's and, to my great surprise, it was 24 hours old and cost the same as at an Israeli kiosk.

Was I lucky or Mr. Oestermann unlucky?
RAFAEL NEUMANN
Haifa.

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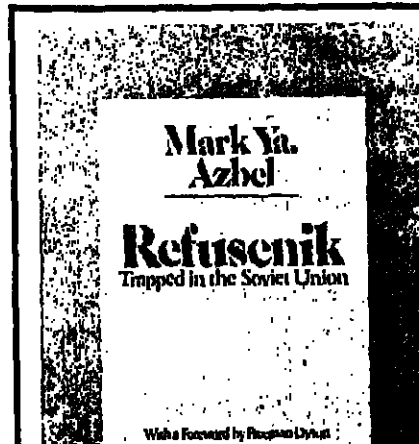
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Wells Reviewed by Benjamin Lyman

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Dr. Azbel, a theoretical physicist of international repute, is now a professor of physics at Tel Aviv University and active on behalf of Jews still trapped in the U.S.S.R.

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